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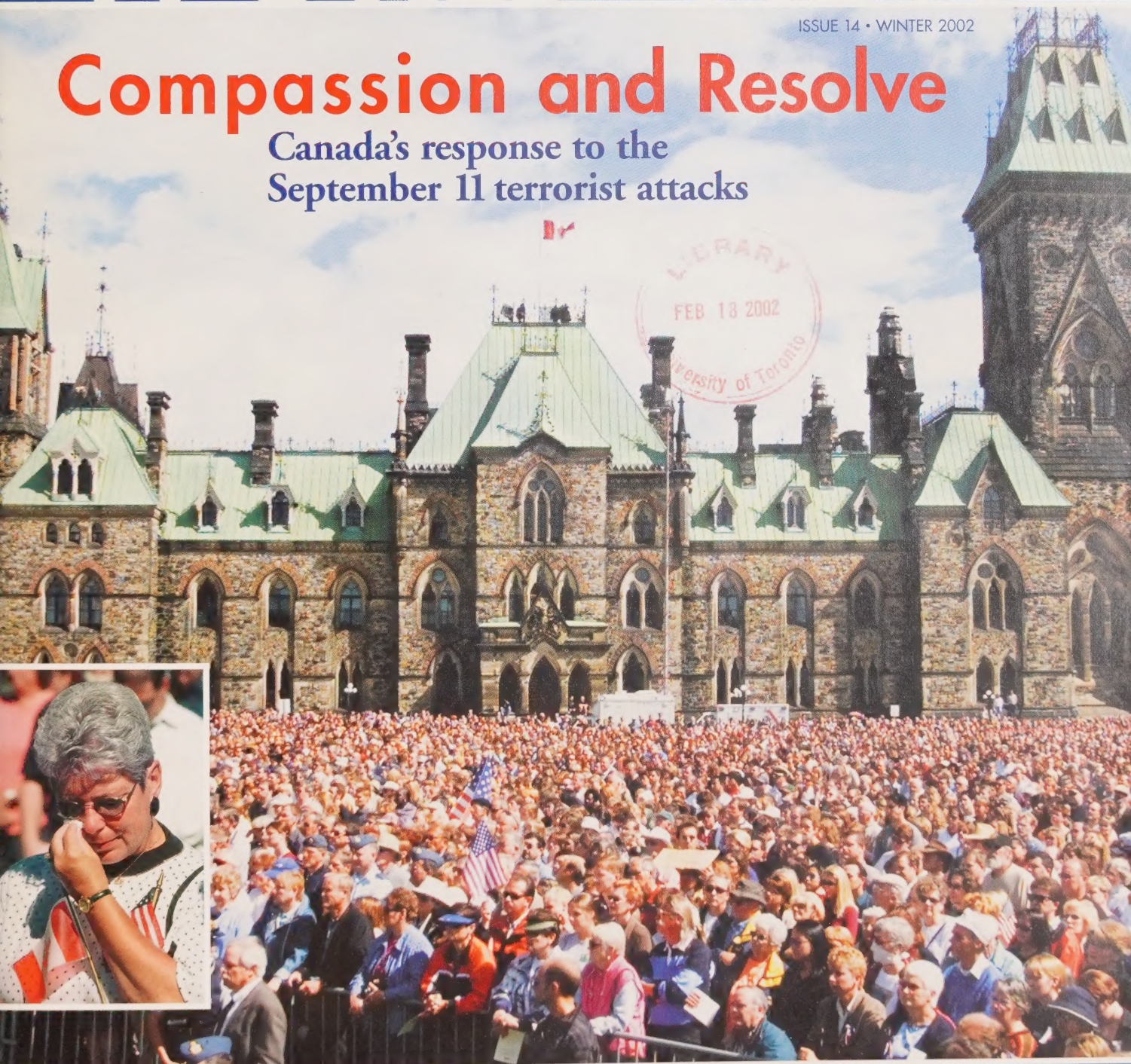
Canada

WORLD VIEW

ISSUE 14 • WINTER 2002

Compassion and Resolve

Canada's response to the
September 11 terrorist attacks



Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
et du Commerce international

Canada

About

Canada World View

Published quarterly in English and French, *Canada World View* provides an overview of current foreign policy issues and Canada's perspective on them. It also updates readers on Canadian initiatives, responses and contributions in the field of international affairs.

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Our cover

Canada's National Day of Mourning for
the terrorist victims, Parliament Hill,
Ottawa. Inset: A mourner in Vancouver.

photos: CANAPRESS

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CALENDAR

JANUARY

January 18-26

Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley
visits Pakistan and India

January 29-30

Commonwealth Ministerial Action
Group meeting
London, U.K.

January 31-February 4

World Economic Forum
New York, U.S.A.
(moved this year from Davos, Switzerland)

FEBRUARY

February 8-9

Meeting of G7 Finance Ministers
and Central Bank Governors
National Capital Region, Canada

February 8-24

XIX Olympic Winter Games
Salt Lake City, U.S.A.

February 12-22

Team Canada trade mission
to Russia and Germany

MARCH

March 2-5

Commonwealth Heads of
Government Meeting
Coolool, Australia

March 8

International Women's Day

March 11

Commonwealth Day

March 18-22

International Conference on
Financing for Development
Monterrey, Mexico

March 20

International Day of La Francophonie

March 21

International Day for the
Elimination of Racism

PUTTING AN END TO TERROR

The events of September 11, 2001, in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania brought global strife to North America. The tragedy that unfolded that day killed an estimated 3500 people and left hundreds of others critically injured. While the attacks took place in the United States, their reverberations are being felt worldwide: the victims came from all parts of the globe, from a wide range of nationalities, religions and ethnic groups.

Canadians have been deeply affected by September 11. Television coverage made many of us eyewitnesses to the tragedy. That same day, communities and homes across Canada welcomed over 33 000 passengers as U.S. airspace was closed and flights were redirected. Later that week, 100 000 of us gathered on Parliament Hill in Ottawa for a national day of mourning; and sadly, among the victims of the devastation we counted, named and mourned 23 Canadians who had been killed.

Canada's response to the attacks was swift and vigorous. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien quickly established a new Ad Hoc Committee of Ministers on Public Security and Anti-Terrorism, headed by Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley. The Committee took immediate action, including allocating funds for new technologies and personnel to fortify Canada's security framework. Later, Budget 2001 committed an additional \$7.7 billion for this purpose.

Although we already have one of the safest aviation systems in the world, Canada has further strengthened airport and air security. In addition, the federal government tabled an omnibus bill in Parliament to equip our law enforcement and security agencies with the tools they need to shut down terrorist networks.

Canada was among the first countries that enforced new financial regulations to freeze the assets of terrorists and block terrorist fundraising, in compliance with the landmark United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373. Canada has also ratified 10 of the 12 UN counter-

terrorism conventions. Its new anti-terrorism legislation will allow it to ratify the remaining two.

Canada fully supported NATO's invocation of Article V of the 1949 North Atlantic Treaty that created the alliance. We are a key contributor to the military coalition being led by the United States. In the largest deployment of Canadian forces and equipment since the Korean War, almost 3000 men and women, plus naval and air support, have been assigned to the international military effort against Osama bin Laden, his Al Qaeda network and the Taliban in Afghanistan. Included in that number are 750 troops to be deployed to the Kandahar area by mid-February.

The global fight against terrorism is being further reinforced through the G8—of which Canada assumed the presidency in January 2002—and in organizations as diverse as the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, the Organization of American States, the Commonwealth and La Francophonie. As a member of all, Canada is uniquely placed to carry forward the message of the international coalition.

In this issue, *Canada World View* examines the Canadian response to September 11. It reviews measures taken by the Government of Canada to ensure the safety of our citizens and our borders; it assesses Canada's contribution to the international coalition; and it looks at the support, compassion and generosity shown by Canadians from coast to coast during one of the most horrific news events of our time. 🍁

photo: CANAPRESS



CANADA'S POINT MAN

Interview with Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley

On September 11, terrorists sought to sow fear, but instead they reaped outrage. Their only notable success was in galvanizing world opinion, and world leadership, against themselves. They induced neither retreat nor resignation. They have assured their own destruction. We will finish what they began, and will emerge stronger, prouder and more united than we ever have been.

—Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley
Speech to the United States
Foreign Policy Association
New York City, November 5, 2001

In the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley is playing a pivotal role in Canada's response to international terrorism. In addition to his diplomatic duties, he chairs the Ad Hoc Committee of Ministers on Public Security and Anti-Terrorism; this body is reviewing federal government policies, legislation, regulations and programs, and adjusting them to the new security environment. *Canada World View* asked for the Minister's perspective on the events of September 11, and their implications for Canadians and for Canada's foreign policy.

Canada World View: Mr. Manley, where were you and what was your reaction when you learned of the attacks?

John Manley: I was on an Air Canada flight out of Frankfurt, on my way home to Canada. One of the flight attendants invited me into a little kitchen area, where I was told the terrible news. I was then taken up to the cockpit, where I was able to keep track of events by listening to a shortwave radio with headphones on. Our flight was one of the

last—possibly the last flight into Canadian airspace before it was closed, and the pilots remarked about how struck they were by the complete lack of chatter over the airwaves. It was eerie. There was nothing else in the air.

As for my reaction to the attacks, of course I was deeply, profoundly shocked. This was a cold-hearted, calculated attack on innocent people. Beyond that, it was an attack on democracy, on our way of life and our values.

Canada World View: As Chair of the Ad Hoc Cabinet Committee, you are at the centre of Canada's response to terrorism. How have you approached this task?

John Manley: The goal is to protect Canadians from terrorist acts. To do this, we must adapt to new and emerging threats and methods of operation. We are working to stop terrorists from getting into Canada; to develop better ways to identify, prosecute, convict and punish those who may be in our country; and to cooperate with the international community to bring terrorists to justice and address the root causes of the hatred which drives them. Another critical task is to make sure that Canada-U.S. border cooperation—which is so important to the economic security of both our countries—does not become another casualty of the events of September 11.

That's a tall order in itself, but at the same time we must do it in such a way that we never lose sight of the values and rights that Canadians hold dear. We must build in all the necessary checks and balances to preserve the free and open character of our society.

The work of the committee is well under way. The government has committed an additional \$7.7 billion in anti-terrorism initiatives [see p. 6].

Canada World View: How strong is the resolve of the international community to fight and eradicate terrorism?

John Manley: There is no doubt that international cooperation will be our most critical tool in the campaign against terrorism. This is a global problem. It's not something that can be tackled by one country alone, so we need to build on alliances. Prime Minister Chrétien has

spoken to many world leaders by telephone and in person at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in Shanghai.

I've also spent a great deal of time on the telephone since September 11 talking to my counterparts. I held meetings in the Middle East in October, and recently I was in New York City for the UN General Assembly. There I met with G8 colleagues as well as representatives of Pakistan, India, key Islamic countries and members of the Rio Group of Latin American nations. I used these meetings strategically for coalition building.

The overwhelming majority of countries around the globe are committed to fighting terrorism. We've seen unprecedented solidarity encompassing different geographic regions, religions, ethnic groups, political systems and levels of development. That solidarity was most recently demonstrated in an important UN Security Council resolution of November 12, backing the political transition and humanitarian and security efforts in Afghanistan. That's why it's so crucial to build and nurture the coalition and the resolve to end terrorism. Canada is investing a great deal of effort to do so, and I'm confident this solidarity will hold.

Canada World View: Who is Canada working with to build international support against terrorism?

John Manley: Continued coalition-building in the international community is essential. To this end, Canada is working hard with many other countries to ensure the widest coalition possible.

The UN is and will undoubtedly continue playing a key role in resolving this crisis, and we applaud the unity of purpose shown by the Security Council since

September 11. As you know, Canada is busy implementing its UN obligations and working hard to promote the widest possible adherence by other countries. This includes progress toward a new, comprehensive UN counterterrorism convention.

The fight against terrorism is being further strengthened through NATO and the G8—of which Canada assumed the presidency in January 2002—and in organizations as diverse as APEC, the Commonwealth and

La Francophonie. As a member of all of these, Canada is uniquely placed to carry forward the message of the coalition.

And don't forget, with only 12 ratifications to go (as of December 31), the International Criminal Court will play an enormous part in the global fight to eliminate impunity for the most serious crimes known to humankind—including terrorism that amounts to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes.



Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley (right) and U.S. Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge prepare to sign a declaration for the creation of a Smart Border for the 21st century between Canada and the United States, Ottawa, December 12.

Canada World View:

Canada's involvement in the military campaign against terrorism has been criticized in some quarters. How do you answer those critics?

John Manley: The decision to contribute Canadian Forces personnel and assets was not made lightly. But we believe that it is the right thing to do. Canada is a peace-loving nation, but our history shows that we will stand and fight where necessary to defend our values. We fully backed the invocation of NATO's Article V on self-defence, which states that an attack against one NATO member is an attack against all. As Prime Minister Chrétien said: "We have not picked this fight, but we will finish it, and finish it well." ♦

Heading off the terrorist threat

CANADA TAKES DECISIVE ACTION

In the weeks and months following the September 11 attacks, the Government of Canada announced wide-ranging measures to counter the global threat of terrorism.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien quickly established the Ad Hoc Committee of Ministers on Public Security and Anti-Terrorism, chaired by Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley. It is reviewing government policies, legislation, regulations and programs. The aim is to strengthen all aspects of Canada's approach to fighting terrorism and ensuring public security.

The government is rapidly implementing its anti-terrorism plan. This has five key objectives:

- to prevent terrorists from entering Canada;
- to protect Canadians from terrorist acts;
- to bring forward tools for identifying, prosecuting, convicting and punishing terrorists;
- to keep the Canada-U.S. border secure and open to legitimate trade; and
- to work with the international community to bring terrorists to justice and address the root causes of terrorism.

Since the terrorist attacks, the government has acted in support of this plan by committing an additional \$7.7 billion over the next five years to keep Canada safe, terrorists out and our borders open.

Measures include major investments to equip and deploy more intelligence and front-line investigative personnel; to boost inter-agency coordination and marine security; to improve screening of immigrants, refugee claimants and visitors (including detention and removals); to upgrade infrastructure protection and emergency preparedness and response, and contribute to an expanded anti-terrorism capacity for the military; to create a new air security organization; to enhance policing and assign armed undercover police officers to Canadian aircraft; to purchase explosives detection equipment; to strengthen Canada's ability to address threats of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attack; and to enhance border security and improve the infrastructure that supports the legitimate flow of goods and people across the Canada-U.S. border.

More people, technology and capacity

In the wake of September 11, Canada put in place an array of immediate measures, including enhanced policing, security and intelligence. Among the measures: the fast-tracking of a fraud-resistant permanent resident card for new immigrants; more front-end security screening for refugee claimants; increased detention capacity and deportation activity; hiring of new staff to enforce upgraded security at ports of entry; redeployment of over 2000 federal police officers to national security duties; purchases of antibiotics to increase the national emergency stockpile system; purchases of detection equipment and other enhancements for the national network of laboratories; and technology upgrades, equipment purchases and training with a view to preventing, detecting and responding to existing and emerging national security threats and cross-border criminal activities.

Budget 2001, announced on December 10, further underscores the Government of Canada's commitment to fighting terrorism and reinforcing public and economic security.

Strengthening laws

Since September 11, the Government of Canada has introduced key pieces of legislation to fight terrorism. The cornerstone of our domestic action is the Anti-Terrorism Act, which became law on December 18.

It is designed to:

- identify, prosecute, convict and punish terrorists;
- provide new investigative tools to law enforcement and security agencies; and
- ensure that Canadian values of respect and fairness are preserved through stronger laws against hate crimes and propaganda.

The Act includes the following measures:

- defining and designating terrorist groups and activities;
- tougher sentences for terrorism offences;



- making it a crime to knowingly participate in, facilitate or contribute to a terrorist group;
- making it a crime to knowingly collect or give funds in order to carry out terrorism;
- making it easier to use electronic surveillance against terrorist groups; and
- within carefully defined limits, allowing the arrest and detention of suspected terrorists and imposing conditions on their release, in order to prevent terrorist acts and save lives.

Provisions under the Act will come into force after implementation measures have been arranged with the provinces, territories, police and others responsible for law enforcement.

The Public Safety Act and amendments to the Aeronautics Act, which also became law on December 18, will amend some 19 federal laws, further strengthening the government's ability to protect Canadians and prevent terrorist attacks. Highlights include:

- security requirements for the design or construction of aircraft, airports and facilities;
- screening of people and goods entering restricted areas;
- making it an offence to engage in any behaviour that endangers the safety or security of a flight or persons on board;
- requiring air carriers or those operating aviation reservation systems to provide basic information on

specific passengers or flights when this is needed for security purposes; and

- amendments to the Immigration Act that will help speed implementation of measures, including the suspension or termination of refugee determination proceedings if there are reasonable grounds to believe a claimant is a terrorist, a war criminal or a senior official of a government engaged in terrorist activities.

Creating a Smart Border

On December 12, Minister Manley and U.S. Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge signed a declaration for the creation of a Smart Border for the 21st century between Canada and the United States.

The Declaration outlines a 30-point Action Plan for the two countries to collaborate in identifying and addressing security risks, while efficiently expediting the legitimate flow of people and goods back and forth across the Canada-U.S. border. Innovative examples include:

- establishing a secure system to allow low-risk frequent travellers to move efficiently across the border;
- establishing complementary systems for commercial processing of goods;
- establishing secure procedures to clear goods away from the border;
- relieving congestion at key crossing points by investing reciprocally in border infrastructure;

HMCS *Preserver* trails HMCS *Charlottetown* (top) and HMCS *Iroquois* (middle) out of Halifax harbour in October. The ships are on their way to their stations in the vicinity of the Arabian Sea as part of the international campaign against terrorism.



- identifying technological solutions that will help speed trade across the border, such as electronic container seals; and
- increasing the number of control officers overseas and reviewing visitor visa policies.

Placing immigration control officers overseas is a Canadian innovation that has been successfully adopted by other governments. In the past six years, Canadian officers abroad have stopped more than 33 000 people with false documents before they boarded planes bound for North America. More than 8 300 people were stopped last year alone.

Other elements of the Action Plan are intended to strengthen coordination between enforcement agencies in Canada and the United States in addressing common security threats.

Rooting out terrorists

Canadian law enforcement, security and intelligence organizations are currently participating in the largest international investigation in history to root out and dismantle terrorist networks in all their forms, wherever they exist.

In swift compliance with the landmark UN Security Council Resolution 1373, Canada acted to freeze the assets of those who commit or facilitate terrorist acts, and to prohibit the provision and collection of funds for terrorist activities. To mid-December, Canadian financial institutions had frozen the \$344 000 associated with the 22 accounts designated under the UN Suppression of Terrorism Regulations.

Canada has also ratified 10 of the 12 UN counter-terrorism conventions. The new Anti-Terrorism Act will allow it to ratify the remaining two.

Further, since September 11 the Government of Canada has invested an additional \$63 million in the Financial Transaction Reports Analysis Centre of Canada. The investment will be used to expand the Centre's capacity to stop the funding of terrorists.

Military contribution

Canada has committed direct military support to the U.S.-led international coalition conducting the global

campaign against terrorism. Under Operation Apollo, the Government of Canada has contributed:

- nearly 3 000 men and women of the Canadian Forces, including a 750-strong Light Infantry Battle Group deploying by mid-February to the Kandahar area of Afghanistan as part of a U.S. Army task force;
- a Canadian Naval Task Group (two frigates, a destroyer and a supply ship) on station in the Arabian Sea;
- a Canadian frigate integrated with a U.S. Carrier Battle Group; and
- Canadian aircraft to conduct airlifts in the region.

Diplomatic activities

Canada is working hard with other countries, individually and multilaterally, to broaden the international coalition to fight terrorism; strengthen the interim administration of Afghanistan and ensure that it is broadly representative, accountable, stable and multi-ethnic; and support reconstruction efforts in that country.

Canada belongs to the G8 (of which it currently holds the presidency), NATO, the United Nations, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie and the Organization of American States. As a member of these and other international organizations, Canada is uniquely positioned to advance the anti-terrorism agenda at summits and other key meetings.

Providing humanitarian relief

Canada is deeply concerned about the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. Since September 11 it has provided \$16 million in emergency assistance to that country. This is in addition to the more than \$12 million contributed in 2001 before the crisis, and some \$160 million given over the past 10 years.

Canada has also announced new measures to assist Pakistan in stabilizing its economy and dealing with the influx of Afghan refugees. The measures include the conversion of up to \$447 million in outstanding loans, owed by Pakistan to the Canadian International Development Agency, for social sector development programming.

The government committed an additional \$100 million in Budget 2001 for humanitarian and development assistance in Afghanistan. 🍁

BETWEEN FRIENDS: THE CANADA-U.S. CONNECTION

The days following the horrific attacks on the United States highlighted as never before the close links joining Canadians and their American neighbours.

But the relations were not always so friendly. There was a time when they were strained and bitter, when the United States posed a military threat to Canada. In 1775, for instance, American revolutionary troops captured Montreal and almost took Quebec City as well. Some 30 years later in the hard-fought War of 1812, U.S. armies almost gained control of Upper and Lower Canada. The fear of further invasion was in fact a decisive element prompting the move toward Canadian Confederation in 1867.

Turning point

Yet from these perilous beginnings has emerged one of the most harmonious bilateral partnerships ever.

A major turning point came during the Second World War, when Canadian Prime Minister William Lyon MacKenzie King and U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the 1940 Ogdensburg Agreement; this committed the then-neutral United States to come to the protection of Canada if it was attacked.

The former uneasy neighbours were now steadfast allies.

Canada and the United States now have a long and distinguished history of shared values, institutions and rights. While the two systems of government differ, our common political culture—based on pluralism and freedom of speech—continues to serve as a model for many countries the world over. Canadians and Americans alike prize democracy, the rule of law and the market economy, and they have stood together to defend these principles.

A unique partnership

Today, two-way relations between our countries are all-encompassing and almost every aspect of Canada's national life has some kind of involvement with the United States. Business, civil society and a shared culture—ranging from education to the media, from sports to music—have laid the groundwork for successful cooperation. Bringing understanding and vitality to the relationship are myriad personal friendships, professional links and family ties.

Canada and the United States enjoy an economic partnership unique in the world. The two countries are joined by the longest unmilitarized border, measuring some 8900 kilometres; it is crossed each year by 200 million people, and each day by goods worth over \$1.9 billion. We are each other's largest trading partner, and two-way trade has more than doubled since 1989. Our comprehensive relationships also support more than 2 million jobs in each country. These are essential inputs into both our economies.

There have been occasional strains over differences on issues such as acid rain, climate change or softwood lumber; but consultation and compromise have enabled Canada and the United States to negotiate key accords. Dispute settlement mechanisms in treaties and agreements ensure that problems are identified and resolved through conciliation and diplomacy. Thanks to World Trade Organization and North American Free Trade Agreement dispute settlement mechanisms, more than 95 percent of our trade with the United States is trouble-free.

September 11 and after

Since the tragic events of September 11, the world has changed. But one thing remains constant: the closeness of the Canada-U.S. relationship. As Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and President George W. Bush have said, we're family.

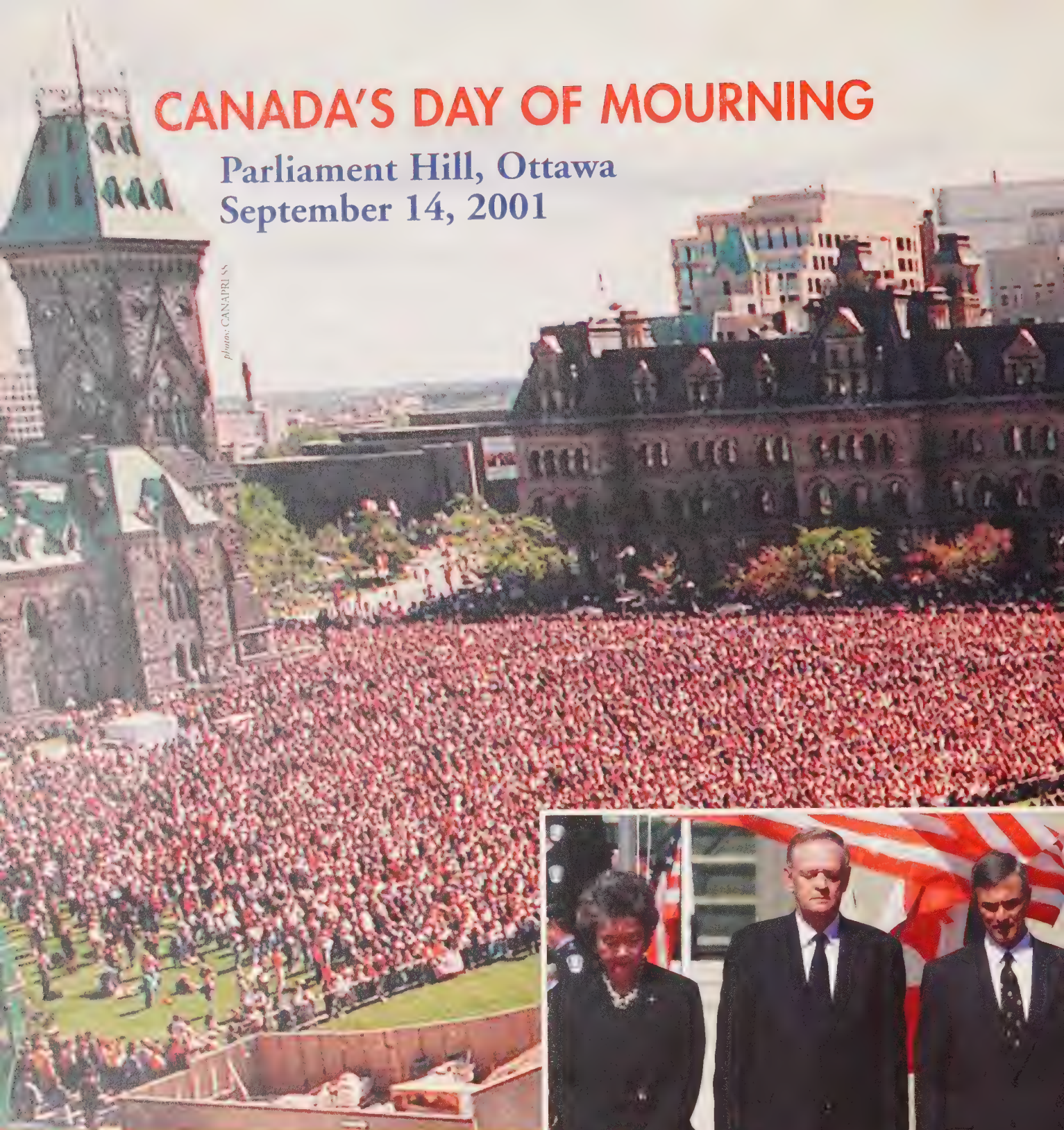
Canadians and Americans have in common a multitude of interests, alliances, goals and aspirations going beyond any other relationship existing between two states anywhere. This is the partnership that will enable us to meet the global challenge of terrorism. 🍁

For more information on Canada-U.S. relations,
visit <http://www.can-usa.gc.ca>

CANADA'S DAY OF MOURNING

Parliament Hill, Ottawa
September 14, 2001

photos: CANAPRIS



From left, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and U.S. Ambassador to Canada Paul Cellucci observe three minutes of silence at Canada's National Day of Mourning. Some 100 000 people overflowed the site at the noon ceremony.





"TRAGEDY WILL BRING OUR TWO COUNTRIES CLOSER,"

says Canada's Ambassador to the United States

Canada World View:

Ambassador Kergin, when you took up your duties in Washington in October 2000, you certainly did not expect that, less than one year later, you would become a front-line witness to the kind of tragedy that struck the United States on September 11. What was your first reaction?

Michael Kergin: Like millions of other people in North America and around the world, I was absolutely horrified by the images of hijacked commercial jetliners hitting the twin towers of the World Trade

Center in New York. I was all the more shocked when reports came in that the Pentagon had also been hit—we could see the smoke from the Embassy—and that a plane that had crashed near Pittsburgh was originally aimed at the White House in Washington.

Canada World View:

Has September 11 changed the nature of the Canada-U.S. relationship in any way?

Michael Kergin: The Canada-U.S. relationship is as steadfast today as ever and the fundamentals of the relationship will remain the same. These include our enormous trade

(\$1.9 billion daily), the defence relationship, the very close cooperation on security issues, customs, immigration, intelligence sharing, and all those areas where we have a closer relationship with the United States than any other country in the world—although much more discreet in some ways.

However, as a result of the attacks, our relationship is likely to take a slightly different shape and to become even closer. What has changed since September 11 is that

What we need is not so much a perimeter of security as a zone of confidence around North America. —Ambassador Michael F. Kergin

we are now facing a long-term struggle to protect a way of life which many of us had taken too much for granted. Now we must work hard to maintain our open and multicultural societies against the threat of terrorism. This will be quite a test and teamwork will be the name of the game in rising to the challenge.

Canada World View: How will we achieve both openness and security? Are we talking about closer integration between our two countries or just closer cooperation on key issues such as terrorism, cross-border movements of people and goods, and common security?

Michael Kergin: The key to success will be ongoing cooperation and compatibility between regulatory and enforcement agencies on both sides of the border. On the security side, because we occupy the same continent and because we are both under the threat of an invisible, highly organized enemy which can strike out in very unpredictable ways against our populations, it is obvious our cooperation will increase.

Having said this, we don't need closer integration with the United

States to reinforce our common security. For example, we can still have our own legislation and regulations

relating to immigration, and the Americans can have their own legislation and regulations. They're not that different anyway. But the question is, are we sure that the people coming through are consistent with what both countries consider admissible? If there are doubts, by sharing information we can better screen out criminals and people associated with terrorists, which neither country wants.

The key question here is, are we enforcing our legislation and regulations in an efficient way? If we have doubts about each other, then we run the risk of having to put up walls at the border. But if we ensure, through

MICHAEL F. KERGIN

joined the Department of External Affairs in 1967, and has degrees from the University of Toronto and Oxford University. He served as Canada's Ambassador to Cuba from 1986 to 1989, and was Foreign Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister from 1998 until his appointment as Ambassador to the United States in 2000.



closer cooperation and information sharing, that we both enforce the regulations properly, the need for putting up a barrier between Canada and the United States disappears.

In my discussions with U.S. officials and Members of Congress, there has never been any indication of dissatisfaction with Canadian legislation as being somehow complacent about threats to the United States, nor has there been any discussion to the effect that they would want us to change our legislation. Although some isolated voices (usually ill-informed Canadian "talking heads") suggested that Canada was a haven for terrorists, the general sentiment in the U.S. administration is that they are pleased with the way we handle security issues, particularly those of common concern.

No two countries work more closely toward the common goal of ensuring the safety of their citizens against terrorism than do Canada

and the United States. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, local police, and customs, immigration and transport officials work with their American counterparts every day, 365 days a year. U.S. authorities have praised the work of all these Canadian agencies in the aftermath of September 11. This cooperation will not only continue but get closer.

Canada World View: Canada and the United States share the longest undefended border in the world. Isn't it likely that crossing the border will be more difficult than it was before the attacks? If so, what could be the long-term consequences for Canada's economy?

Michael Kergin: Our two economies are extremely integrated. Any action that would hamper the free flow of goods and people (with some 200 million people crossing

the border each year) would have disastrous consequences for Canada's economy. That is why we have to manage our common border intelligently.

We are currently cooperating in developing new ways to differentiate the low risk from the high risk. We want to ensure that people or goods which have uncertain or dubious provenance cannot cross the border and are directed to the proper authorities, while those which pose no risk can cross with a minimum of inconvenience. The resources that would be freed, particularly by using new information technologies, could then be used to prevent dubious people or goods from entering North America. What we need here is not so much a "perimeter of security" as a "zone of confidence" around North America. I'm confident we'll be able to achieve it. 🍁

The day after the attacks, trucks were backed up 27 kilometres from the U.S. border on Highway 402 at Reeces Corners, southern Ontario. Heightened security checks slowed cross-border traffic to a trickle.



From Ground Zero to coalition building

CANADA'S DIPLOMATS GEAR UP

It was just before 9:00 A.M. on September 11 when Serge Paquette glanced at one of the many television monitors in the Operations Centre of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa. Like millions of others around the world, he was dumbstruck by what he saw.

When the second airliner hit New York's World Trade Center 20 minutes later, the Deputy Director for Emergency Services knew he was about to face his biggest crisis.

International disasters that affect Canadians abroad—usually natural

disasters such as hurricanes or earthquakes—are dealt with routinely by Mr. Paquette's emergency services staff. The Consular Affairs Bureau is accustomed to coordinating evacuations and repatriations, and contacting friends and relatives of those involved. But nothing so unexpected and destructive as this had ever happened before.

By 10:00 A.M., Mr. Paquette was in the first of many task force meetings on handling the crisis. By midday, all Canadian embassies and high commissions were ordered into emergency 24-hour-service mode.

The top priority was to help citizens affected by the tragedy. Teams worked around the clock answering telephone calls from distressed friends and family, locating those lost at Ground Zero (the attack site in New York), and assisting Canadians abroad who had been grounded by the ban on air travel.

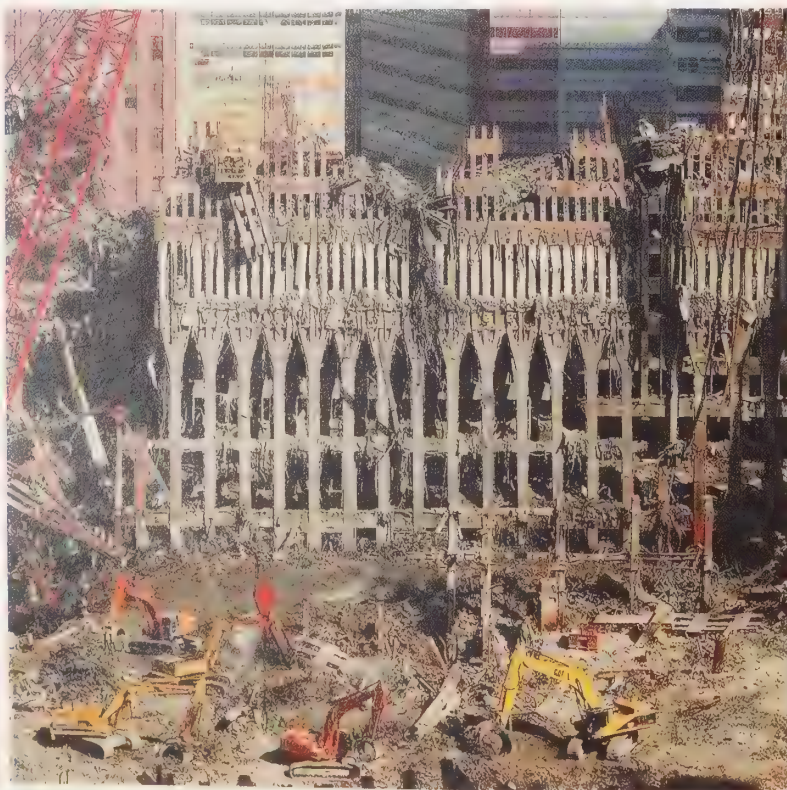
On the first day, the 15 telephone lines in the Operations Centre received 5500 calls. Over the course of the next two weeks, a total of 24 000 calls were dealt with.

"The fundamental reason for our existence is the well-being of Canadians when they're out of the country," says Gar Pardy, Director General of Consular Services. "On September 11, the safety of Canadians was our one objective. Everything else stopped."

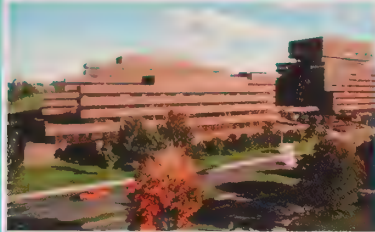
Ground Zero

In New York, the lion's share of the work fell to the staff at the Canadian Consulate General. Their immediate task was to find out whether Canadians had been on any of the hijacked planes or in the World Trade Center.

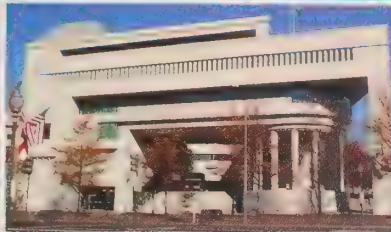
On any given day, up to 200 000 Canadians may be in New York City, working, shopping or visiting tourist sites like the Statue of Liberty or the World Trade Center. Consulate staff feared that Canadians could well be among the 5000 missing. In addition, many Canadian citizens who lived in the



The ruins of the World Trade Center in New York



Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Ottawa



Canada's Embassy in Washington, D.C.



Canada's Consulate General in New York City

photos: DFAIT

vicinity of the twin towers had become instantly homeless as a result of the attacks.

Consulate staff immediately set up a buddy system, arranging for homeless Canadians to find shelter with fellow citizens in New York. Some wanted to return to Canada as soon as possible but could not retrieve their passport or citizenship papers; staff provided special documentation permitting them to re-enter the country.

At first over 700 Canadians were thought to be among the victims. However, after exhaustive efforts to locate those thought missing, the numbers quickly fell.

New York Consul General Michael Phillips assigned the detective work of locating the missing to Brian Schumacher, Deputy Consul General and Senior Trade Commissioner. He led a team made up of staff from all sections of the Consulate. Also assisting were volunteers from Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations and the Quebec delegation in New York.

Every day, the team checked lists of potential and known victims at crisis management centres and hospitals. At the Consulate's request, telephone companies and banks contacted Canadians who were their customers and asked them to get in touch with Consulate officials.

"What was most rewarding was the door-to-door search parties we organized with our colleagues at the Délégation du Québec," says Ian

Burchett, Consul (Investment). "It really lifted our spirits to get a phone call saying that the person we were looking for was safe, having received our little notes that we had left at their home."

"We worked day and night to locate people," adds Brian Schumacher. "We'd leave at 11:00 P.M. and feel good that we had indeed found 18 people who were missing. Then we'd come in the next morning and find that more calls to DFAIT overnight had added another 12 names to the list."

Within days it was clear to Consulate staff that Canadians had in fact died in the attacks on the World Trade Center. Family members started to arrive in New York. They had to be looked after, as did the specialists who came to help the Consulate help the families. In the end, 23 Canadians are presumed dead.

"During this time, our staff—some of whom lost family members and friends—had to set aside their own fears and safety concerns," notes Management and Consular Officer André Laporte.

"It was extraordinary," says Michael Phillips. "There were many versatile people who could shift gears from their regular jobs to help out."

Coalition building

With the stranded, the homeless and the families of Canadian victims being cared for as much as possible, diplomatic efforts immediately turned to other fronts.



photo: CANAPRESS

Canadian Garnet (Ace) Bailey, director of pro scouting for the National Hockey League's Los Angeles Kings. A native of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan, and a former player for the Washington Capitals, Bailey was on board one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center.

Like no other event before it, September 11 crystallized the need for building an international response to fight terrorism. Canadian diplomats swung into action, using their wealth of experience in fostering multilateral action and reaching out bilaterally to other countries.

"The political coalition will be the bedrock of our effort and this is where Canada will be investing most of its work," says one senior diplomat.

One of the first—and strongest—anti-terrorism messages emerged from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, when it invoked Article V of its Charter for the first time in the alliance's more than 50-year history. Canada strongly supported NATO's move and pledged direct military support. Canada's contribution, called Operation Apollo, includes naval vessels as well as air surveillance and transport units for the war against terrorism.

Canadian officials also set to work immediately with other countries and organizations on an intense diplomatic campaign to build broad support for fighting terrorism. These organizations include the G8, the Organization of American States, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie and, most important, the United Nations. With Canadian support and leadership, all have taken a tough anti-terrorism stand through leaders' statements, resolutions, action plans and other measures. Along with economic issues and Africa, anti-terrorism will figure prominently on the agenda of the G8 during Canada's presidency this year.

"The United Nations has a unique and indispensable role to play," Foreign Affairs Minister John Manley told the UN General Assembly on November 10. "While the campaign against terrorism will be conducted through coalitions of different state actors, alliances and organizations, this is where it must ultimately all come together in its political, diplo-

matic, legal, economic, humanitarian and security dimensions."

Accordingly, Canadian diplomats are actively supporting the role of the United Nations.

On September 28, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1373, which calls on states to take specific steps that will choke the flow of funds to terrorists and sever their support networks. Canada welcomed this resolution and has implemented many of its provisions. In a first report to the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee, submitted on December 14, Canada outlined substantial actions it has taken to combat terrorism.

Canadian diplomats are also completing the ratification of the Convention Against Terrorist Bombing and the Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism. This will make Canada full party to all 12 existing UN counterterrorism conventions. Negotiations are under way on the 13th convention, the Comprehensive Convention Against International Terrorism. That convention will ensure that all terrorist acts are condemned under international law.

Finally, diplomatic efforts are continuing on making the International Criminal Court a reality; only 12 more ratifications are still needed (as of December 31). The creation of the court will represent an extremely significant step in the ongoing struggle to eliminate impunity for the worst crimes known to humankind. 🍁

CANADA LOVES NEW YORK

In an outpouring of affection for America's largest city, thousands of Canadians converged on New York for the December 1 weekend.

By car, bus, train and plane, they headed for the "Canada Loves New York" rally—a show of solidarity with a community still reeling from the devastating attacks of last September. The brainchild of Senator Jerry Grafstein of Toronto, the private-sector event was organized by volunteer groups in Canada and New York.

The national anthem of Canada rang through the streets of Manhattan as singing crowds made their way to the Roseland Ballroom. There 2500 filled the hall for speeches by prominent figures—including Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chrétien—and musical performances by leading Canadian artists. Thousands more watched the event on a giant screen outside.

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani called the rally a "wonderful display of friendship" and presented Mr. Chrétien with a proclamation declaring December 1 "Canada Loves New York Day." "This is a truly overwhelming response by the people of Canada," said Mr. Giuliani.

The Prime Minister paid tribute to the rescue workers, firefighters and police officers who had risked and, in many cases, lost their lives as they helped save others from the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. Mr. Chrétien called the city "a symbol of endless courage—and that is, my friends, why Canada loves New York."

Shoulder to Shoulder



1. In front of the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa a few days after the attacks. For an entire city block the railings were covered with flowers and messages of condolence.

2. In front of Station One in Toronto, Ontario, firefighters observe three minutes of silence in memory of the 200 New York firefighters who died in the rubble of the World Trade Center.

3. At Veterans' Day ceremony in New York City, Foreign Affairs Minister Manley (right) presents "Canada Loves NY" T-shirt to New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

4. In Calgary, Alberta, police motorcycles lead a candlelight vigil and march in remembrance of victims of the attacks.

5. At St. James United Church in downtown Montreal, Quebec, religious leaders attend an interfaith service in memory of the terrorist victims.

6. At Exhibition Park in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Red Cross volunteers prepare over 1,500 make-shift beds for the thousands of travellers whose flights were diverted to that city.

7. Master Corporal Craig Pomeroy kisses his 22-month-old granddaughter Brianna before his ship, HMCS Preserver, sails from Halifax, Nova Scotia, for the Persian Gulf.

OUT OF HORROR SHINE DECENCY AND GOODNESS

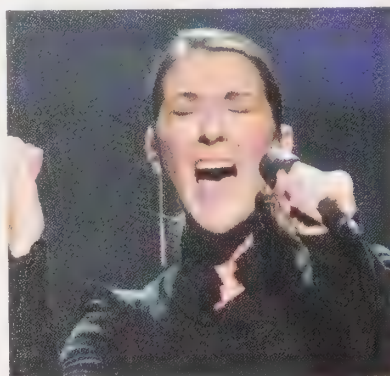
The people of Halifax, Nova Scotia, have long been familiar with tragedy. Traditionally many of them earn their living in precarious conditions at sea, and perhaps this is why Haligonians have always been able to respond to disaster with heroism and generosity. The city buried victims of the *Titanic* in 1912; it weathered the great Halifax Explosion of 1917 and the 1998 Swissair crash. And on September 11, Halifax once again showed its strength.

Shortly after the terrorist attacks on that day, American authorities shut down U.S. airspace and asked Canada to play host to a throng of accidental tourists. In all, 224 planes were diverted to Canada, carrying over 33 000 passengers in need of refuge and solace.

By 4:30 P.M. on the 11th, Halifax International Airport had become a parking lot for more than 40 diverted planes, and 8000 distressed and bewildered passengers needed to be housed, fed and comforted. With open arms and hearts, the citizens of Halifax welcomed strangers into their homes. They offered sustenance and, more important, emotional support to people of many nationalities, most of whom at first were unaware of why their travel had been interrupted. Churches donated space and cots for weary travellers. Volunteers organized soup kitchens and set up 1500 makeshift beds at Exhibition Park.

One of the passengers diverted to Halifax was noted Harvard University

professor and author Stephen Jay Gould. In an article in the *Globe and Mail* on September 20, he wrote, "You responded immediately, unanimously, unstintingly and with all conceivable goodness, when no real danger, but merely fear and sub-



Céline Dion sings at a benefit concert of Quebec artists in Montreal on September 28. One week earlier she performed at a nationwide live telethon in New York in support of the victims' families.

stantial inconvenience, dogged your refugees for a few days. Our lives did not depend upon you, but you gave us everything nonetheless. We . . . are forever in your debt, and all humanity glows in the light of your unselfish goodness."

Good neighbours from coast to coast

Countless acts of kindness were performed by people across Canada. In St. John's, Newfoundland, 4000 volunteers cared for 4400 passengers from 27 flights. Not far away, the small city of Gander—with a

population of some 10 000—took in 6595 people arriving in 38 aircraft. It and the surrounding communities closed schools, meeting halls and other gathering places, and converted these into mass lodging areas with cots and sleeping bags. In gratitude to the warm-hearted people of Lewisporte—located about 45 kilometres from Gander—the passengers of diverted Delta Airlines Flight 15 from Frankfurt set up a trust fund to send a local high school student to university. On their flight back to Atlanta, Georgia, they collected some \$20 000.

Thirty-four planes were diverted to Vancouver, British Columbia. Hotels near Vancouver International Airport made available every bedroom, and converted ballrooms and conference rooms into makeshift dormitories. When still more beds were needed, the staff of the Best Western Richmond Inn became "bed-traffic controllers," booking hotel rooms in locations as far away as Whistler and Chilliwack.

Canadians also demonstrated kindness and support to those directly affected by the tragedy. In the days immediately following September 11, Canadians lined up for hours to donate blood. They organized events such as benefit concerts and raffles across the country to raise funds for the victims. In Windsor, Ontario, Rebecca Deans (age 7) and her brother Jamie (age 4) set up a roadside fruit stand selling pears from the family tree to raise money for the victims. They collected \$21.40.

In Prince Edward Island, Cheryl Boyle and her friends baked over 200 apple pies and sent them to a restaurant serving relief workers at Ground Zero. High-rigging Mohawks from the Oka Reserve in Quebec joined with some 200 other Canadian ironworkers to dismantle the structure of the World Trade Center, which they had helped erect years before.

Close to \$3 million was forwarded to the U.S. United Way's September 11 Fund through a special donor service set up by Canada's United Way/Centraide. The Canadian Red Cross launched a U.S. appeal, which raised \$10 million in less than six weeks for initial emergency relief and support, and for long-term psychological and social help to the estimated 50 000 directly affected individuals, including relief workers.

In praise of heroes

Vancouver firefighters initiated a fundraising campaign for the families of their dead "brothers" in New York. The people of Vancouver responded, donating \$600 000 within 12 hours. Stockbrokers offered hundred-dollar bills, schoolchildren emptied their piggy banks and a University of British Columbia student handed over his bus fare.

The cheque was presented at an emotional ceremony at the Canadian Consulate General in mid-Manhattan, where burly, uniformed New York

and Vancouver firefighters openly wept and hugged each other.

Beyond cash donations and assistance to stranded passengers, professional skills were offered to the New York victims of September 11.

The Salvation Army provided personnel and volunteers to work at and near Ground Zero. So did the Canadian Red Cross, which sent 77 highly trained and mostly volunteer individuals from its disaster response team. Team members left their regular jobs in nursing, firefighting or counselling to work three-week shifts in the ruins of the World Trade Center. Team member Linda Hendrie helped the American Red Cross dispense emergency funds so that survivors could meet initial needs, such as paying utility bills or buying food and clothing.

Ontario's chief and deputy coroners worked with victims' families and Canadian Consulate General staff in New York, as did counsellors from Quebec. "We acted as a kind of conduit," says Dr. James Young, Ontario's Chief Coroner. "We were a source of counsel and expertise,

helping Consulate staff deal with the families, New York authorities and media."

Their expertise ensured that full information was provided to the appropriate authorities, and this helped maximize the chances that a loved one would be identified. In addition, they explained the recovery operations under way, and this helped families understand the probability of the death of husbands or wives, sons or daughters; it also helped them acknowledge the still-harsher reality that the remains of their loved ones might never be found. At the last count, 23 Canadian victims are presumed dead.

There were innumerable gestures of compassion, kindness, generosity and courage in the aftermath of the events of September 11. They demonstrate that out of agonizing horror the human capacity for decency and goodness can shine, crossing borders, nationalities, religions and ethnic groups. Canadians rallied to show their American neighbours that they cared, that a friend in need is a friend indeed. ♣



In London, Ontario, Kim Nichols gives blood as Morgan Nichols (top) and Maddie Speller look on.



Participants in the six-day, 130-mile "Alberta Rides for America" approach the Canada-U.S. border south of Cardston, Alberta. The riders brought \$35 000 in a saddlebag and well over \$15 000 in pledges for the Red Cross.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

When the United States closed its airspace to all traffic following the September 11 terrorist attacks, over 33 000 stranded, anxious passengers landed in Canada on 224 international flights diverted to our territory. The small city of Gander, Newfoundland, with a population of some 10 000, took in 6595 people arriving in 38 aircraft.

On the day of the terrorist attacks, the 15 telephone lines in the Operations Centre of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa received 5500 calls. Over the next two weeks a total of 24 000 calls were dealt with.

During the year 2000, some 48.6 million non-resident travellers (including almost 44 million U.S. residents) entered Canada; most were on business or tourism trips, and some entered the country more than once. Arriving by air were some 4.4 million residents of the United States and 3.8 million residents of other countries.

Measures announced by the Government of Canada since September 11 to counter terrorism and enhance national security across the country, at the border and other ports of entry, involve expenditures totalling an additional \$7.7 billion.

Some 1.8 million Canadian passports were issued during the fiscal year 2000/01, an increase of almost 9 percent over the previous year. There are currently approximately 8 million valid passports in circulation. On average, some 870 passports are issued every working hour of the day.

About 87 percent of Canada's exports go to the United States, while 25 percent of U.S. exports come to Canada. Trade between the two countries amounts to \$1.9 billion every day.

Before September 11, Canada had already ratified 10 of the 12 United Nations counterterrorism conventions. Its new Anti-Terrorism Act will allow it to ratify the remaining two.

Nearly 3000 Canadian Forces personnel have been deployed to the international coalition formed to conduct the global campaign against terrorism. The Canadian contingent includes four frigates, one destroyer, one supply ship, Sea King helicopters, two Aurora maritime patrol aircraft, three Hercules aircraft, one Airbus and a contingent from the special operations unit Joint Task Force Two. Some 750 troops are to be on the ground in Afghanistan by mid-February.

Canada and the United States share the longest undefended border in the world. It stretches 5061 kilometres on land and 3832 kilometres over water. Every year the border is crossed by some 200 million people and 20 million commercial shipments. Trucks transport about 80 percent of all goods that cross the border.

Among the national security measures announced since September 11 is the allocation of \$79 million to buy advanced explosives detection systems and related state-of-the-art electronic security capabilities for screening carry-on and checked baggage at Canadian airports. The money will be used as well to hire more airport security inspectors, buy X-ray machines for better screening of goods, and purchase fingerprint card conversion technology.

CANADA'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM

Use the Web site of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade as your gateway to all the information you need on Canada's campaign against international terrorism:

<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>

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Canada World View

ISSUE 15 • SPRING 2001

From ruins to reconstruction

Rebuilding after conflict

New team to
guide Canada's
foreign affairs

About **Canada World View**

Published quarterly in English and French, *Canada World View* provides an overview of current foreign policy issues and Canada's perspective on them. It also updates readers on Canadian initiatives, responses and contributions in the field of international affairs.

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Our cover

A balloon seller in front of a bombed-out building in Kabul, Afghanistan. After over 20 years of conflict, foreign aid is desperately needed to rebuild the war-torn country. In January, Canada pledged \$100 million in humanitarian and reconstruction aid.

photo: Associated Press/AP

OVERVIEW

On January 15, 2002, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien announced changes to Cabinet, with new ministers and secretaries of state to direct Canadian foreign policy. This issue of *Canada World View* introduces the new faces, and features an interview with new Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham.

We also offer articles on the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Australia in early March, and the sensitive issue of determining when and how the international community should intervene to protect populations endangered by conflict. Highlighted as well are the topics for discussion at the G8 Summit to be hosted by Canada on June 26 and 27 in Kananaskis, Alberta. The Summit and its theme of African development will be the focus of the next issue of *Canada World View*. ★

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CALENDAR

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

APRIL

April 3–13

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien visits Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Nigeria, South Africa, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Senegal)

April 12–14

G8 Environment Ministers' Meeting
Banff, Alberta

April 19–21

Spring meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

April 22–26

International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew leads trade mission to India (New Delhi, Mumbai)

April 25–27

G8 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting
Montreal, Quebec

MAY

May 2–3

G8 Energy Ministers' Meeting
Detroit, U.S.A.

May 6–10

Norway's King Harald V and Queen Sonja visit Canada

May 8–10

UN Special Session on Children
New York, U.S.A.

May 13–14

G8 Justice and Interior Ministers' Meeting
Ottawa, Ontario

May 14–15

NATO Foreign Ministers' Meeting
Reykjavik, Iceland

May 15–16

OECD Ministerial Meeting
Paris, France

May 30–31

APEC Trade Ministers' Meeting
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

JUNE

June 2–4

OAS General Assembly
Bridgetown, Barbados

June 5

World Environment Day

June 10–13

World Food Summit: Five Years Later
Rome, Italy

June 12–13

G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting
Whistler, British Columbia

June 14–15

G7 Finance Ministers' Meeting
Halifax, Nova Scotia

June 26–27

G8 Summit
Kananaskis, Alberta

CULTURE AND CANADIAN STUDIES

APRIL

April 26–May 5

Hot Docs (international documentary film festival)
Toronto, Ontario

MAY

May 1–31

CONTACT
Toronto Photography Festival
Toronto, Ontario

May 3–5

BookExpo America
New York, U.S.A.

May 10–13

Art Chicago
Chicago, U.S.A.

May 15–26

Cannes Film Festival
Cannes, France

May 27–June 2

Vancouver International Children's Festival
Vancouver, British Columbia

May 29–June 3

SOFA New York
(contemporary craft show)
New York, U.S.A.

JUNE

June 4–10

Annual General Meeting of the International Council for Canadian Studies
Ottawa, Ontario

June 9–14

Banff Television Festival
Banff, Alberta

June 21–24

BookExpo Canada
Toronto, Ontario

June 27–July 7

Montreal International Jazz Festival
Montreal, Quebec

NEW MINISTERS

AND SECRETARIES OF STATE

to guide Canadian foreign policy



Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific)
David Kilgour



Secretary of State (Central and Eastern
Europe and Middle East) Gar Knutson



Secretary of State (Latin America and
Africa) (Francophonie) Denis Paradis

The major Cabinet shuffle of January 15, 2002, has brought new ministers and secretaries of state to the team directing Canadian foreign policy. International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew keeps his portfolio and Secretary of State David Kilgour assumes new duties within the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Here are the new members of the team.

Bill Graham is the new Minister of Foreign Affairs. An interview with him appears on the opposite page.

Mr. Graham will be assisted in his duties by three secretaries of state, including David Kilgour, who became Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) in June 1997, and who is now Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific). Mr. Kilgour has outlined very specific priorities: "Diversified and dynamic, the Asia-Pacific region is vitally important to Canada. Our trade with this region totalled close to \$74 billion in 2000, more than our trade with Europe. As the new Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific), I intend to promote trade, Canadian education services, Canadian values and good governance."

A Member of Parliament since 1993 and Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister from 1998 until his appointment to Cabinet, Gar Knutson is the new Secretary of State (Central and Eastern Europe and Middle East). He describes his approach to his new responsibilities as follows: "My position is new, which reflects the increasing importance of these regions to Canada. I intend to concentrate particularly on the promotion of our economic and trade connections with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and with the countries of the Middle East, especially those of the Persian Gulf. Security issues, including the promotion of peace and stability throughout my regions, will also be among my foremost concerns."

Elected to the House of Commons in 1995, Denis Paradis served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister for International Cooperation and the Minister responsible for La Francophonie. He is now Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) (Francophonie). Mr. Paradis is very enthusiastic: "Given the upcoming G8 Summit's emphasis on Africa, I want to help find innovative solutions to bridge the growing gap between the African continent and the rest of the world. There is an opportunity to expand the political role of La Francophonie; I plan to encourage this organization to play a greater role in the promotion of democracy and good governance within its membership. Finally, our commitment to the Americas

continued on page 6

THE IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK

Interview with Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham

Though Mr. Graham only became Minister of Foreign Affairs on January 15, he is very familiar with Canadian foreign policy: he chaired the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade from 1995 until his present appointment. Here is a look at his approach to the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs and his view of Canada's international role.



Foreign Affairs
Minister
Bill Graham

Canada World View: Mr. Graham, how do you see yourself and your new duties?

Bill Graham: I consider myself a strong team player. Teamwork is part and parcel of foreign policy: The Prime Minister represents Canada at large-scale international gatherings such as G8 Summits and meetings of the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, the Americas and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. The Minister for International Trade promotes the interests of Canadian exporters. The Minister for International Cooperation manages Canada's development assistance program, while the secretaries of state deal with particular issues involving specific regions of the world. All these elements make up Canada's foreign policy, a policy defined by both Cabinet and the Department. Although my role is to determine the overall direction of our foreign policy and to oversee it on a daily basis, I am also one member of an impressive team charged with looking out for Canada's best interests internationally.

Canada World View: How do you see this foreign policy? What is your view of Canada's international role?

Bill Graham: Well, traditionally, two framing elements of our foreign policy have been our relations with the United States and our multilateral engagement in the world.

Canada's relationship with the United States is of the utmost importance—it is founded in our shared history, geography, prosperity and security. Moreover, as strong liberal democracies and diverse immigrant societies, we share many common values and extensive family ties. But we are distinct, sovereign nations with distinctive identities and very different roles in the world. And we do not always agree. Canada has always favoured a broad multilateral engagement with our many partners in various countries around the world. For instance, Canada is increasingly becoming a hemispheric nation, with closer links throughout the Americas.

I am very interested in multilateral institutions, as the solidarity created through them enables us broadly to pursue our collective betterment and to advance our common objectives. Institutions such as the Commonwealth, La Francophonie and the Organization of American States, for example, can play a very important role. Canada has been and will be a key player in these institutions, often because we can serve as an intermediary in resolving differences between peoples in different parts of the world.

I am also keenly interested in the United Nations system and the tremendous progress it has achieved over the last 57 years. Clearly, there is still much to be done to

continued on page 6

NEW MINISTERS AND SECRETARIES OF STATE *(continued from page 4)*

and the Caribbean was re-affirmed last year in Quebec City, and I intend to concentrate on enhancing our political and economic ties with the region.”



Minister for International Cooperation
Susan Whelan

Susan Whelan has been appointed Minister for International Cooperation. A Member of Parliament since 1993, Ms. Whelan was Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Revenue and chaired the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology. Her priorities are poverty reduction and good governance in developing countries: “Canada is reaching out to the world. We are putting children back into the classroom; we are

supporting women’s participation in their communities, from grassroots initiatives to governmental reform; and we are helping to fight diseases like tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and malaria. Canada also supports peacebuilding efforts in situations of conflict, and works to protect the environment and promote economic development in poor countries. I plan to focus on strengthening the effectiveness of the aid that we deliver, particularly through donor coordination and local ownership. My other priorities include economic and social development in Africa, and long-term reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan.” 🍁

For biographies of the new ministers and secretaries of state, visit:
www.dfa.gc.ca/1-800-960-0844

THE IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK *(continued from page 5)*

improve the lives of many people around the world. We have been on the Security Council six times since the UN was founded in 1945, and made significant progress on issues such as the protection of civilians in conflicts.

Canada World View: The September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States have forced Canada and the international community to take a close look at their security systems and their anti-terrorism procedures. Will this affect your foreign policy priorities?

Bill Graham: Terrorism is obviously a serious threat to democracy and world peace. We must adapt our foreign policy to take this into account. It will become increasingly

important in the years ahead to address the conditions in which terrorism flourishes, be they political, economic or other. This can only be accomplished through close cooperation with the rest of the international community.

Canada World View: Canada will host the G8 Summit on June 26 and 27, and African economic development will be a key issue. What is your perspective on the situation in Africa and Canada’s commitment to concrete action that will reduce the continent’s endemic poverty?

Bill Graham: I believe the promotion of African development is crucial. We compromise our own security if we do not address the problems afflicting that continent, starting with poverty, AIDS and armed conflict. In today’s interdependent world, disasters that strike an entire continent inevitably affect us here at home. Both our safety and our prosperity are threatened by the instability caused by long conflicts, threats to public health and recurring financial crises. 🍁

For a biography of Foreign Affairs
Minister Bill Graham and for further
information on Canada’s foreign
policy, visit the DFAIT Web site:
www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca

In the aftermath of September 11

CANADA'S DIPLOMATS CONTINUE THEIR VITAL WORK

Last December 10, as Head of Canada's Public Service, Mel Cappe presented 50 Commendation Awards to groups of employees from 20 federal departments and agencies who had made a substantial contribution nationally and abroad in response to the tragic events of September 11. Among the recipients from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade were diplomats with the Consular Affairs Bureau and the Canadian High Commission in Pakistan.

Speaking at the awards ceremony, Mr. Cappe noted that in a time of national challenge the work of public servants becomes all the more needed, visible and valued. "In small and big ways," he said, "public servants have demonstrated that they are flexible, effective and responsive to the needs of Canadians."

At the centre of the tragedy: New York and Washington

The attacks of September 11 claimed the lives of 2,830 people in the United States, including 24 Canadians. For many DFAIT staff it was the beginning of the gravest crisis they had experienced.

In Ottawa, Serge Paquette and his colleagues in the Department's Operations Centre worked around the clock to

respond to worried families and friends, locate missing people, and help Canadians abroad who were unable to return home because of disrupted air transportation. The Operations Centre received 5,500 calls on the first day, and it handled over 30,000 calls within the first three weeks.

The 80 staff members at the Consulate General in New York overcame their initial shock to tackle the huge task of locating the many Canadians who had not been heard from after the attack on the World Trade Centre, and assisting

those in need. The staff managed to do all this without news of their own families and friends. Working day and night under the leadership of Consul General Michael Phillips, they attempted to locate individuals declared missing and helped Canadians stranded in Manhattan.

After just a few weeks, they had responded to 22,000 phone calls. "We were at the centre of the tragedy," says Mr. Phillips. "Each and every employee demonstrated unwavering courage and incredible dedication."

In Washington, D.C., Ambassador Michael Kergin and his staff immediately set about locating Canadians in the area and establishing links between government officials in Ottawa and Washington—particularly the police, security and intelligence services. The Embassy was

the scene of continual comings and goings by government staff and political officials concerned to strengthen security and advance the fight against terrorism.

In the eye of the storm: Islamabad

Thousands of miles away from the sites of the attacks, the impact was felt by Canadian diplomats at the High Commission in Islamabad, Pakistan. Under the leadership of High Commissioner Konrad Sigurdson, they worked



In Ottawa on December 10, 2001, Consul General Michael Phillips (left) of the Canadian Consulate General in New York received the Public Service Commendation Award on behalf of the Consular Affairs Bureau. Gerry Lisk, Counsellor (Administration) (right) received the Award on behalf of the Canadian High Commission in Islamabad. In the middle is Gaëtan Lavertu, Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs.

day and night to contact the 1,000 Canadians living in that country, provide for the safety and security of Canadian staff and their dependants, and process numerous visa applications for spouses of Canadians holding dual citizenship who wanted to go to Canada. The diplomats also assisted Canadian journalists arriving in Pakistan with the intent of entering Afghanistan, many of whom experienced problems. One journalist was kidnapped but later released through the efforts of the High Commission. Workload demands mounted as the situation worsened, and on October 9—two days after the start of bombing in Afghanistan—a dozen Canadian employees and their families were evacuated to Ottawa.

The crisis arose almost as soon as Konrad Sigurdson arrived in Islamabad to take up his duties as High Commissioner. “My first full day of work at the mission was September 10,” he recalls. “In fact, I had two days to prepare because the time difference meant that the first attack in New York happened after 5:30 p.m. on September 11, Pakistan time. A number of us were still in the office and watched in

disbelief and horror as events unfolded. The full impact and realization that Afghanistan was going to be the new centre of world attention became evident over the next few days—and consequently that the situation in Pakistan, whose financial and political stability was already tenuous, was about to shift.”

The High Commission in Islamabad handles Canadian concerns in Afghanistan, positioning it on the front lines given Canada’s involvement in the U.S.-led military campaign. “We were already into a fire-hall readiness stage on October 7 when the air strikes began,” notes Gerry Lisk, Counsellor (Administration). After a tremendous effort to implement the emergency contingency plan and adapt it to the September 11 situation, High Commission staff were ready to act quickly in the event of military action. Within hours of the first air strikes, over a third of the Canadian employees and their families were on their way back to Canada.



In December 2001, Afghan refugees cross the border into Pakistan to escape from the heavy fighting around the southern Afghan city of Kandahar.



In the eye of the storm: the Canadian High Commission in Islamabad, Pakistan

Afghanistan has suffered over 20 years of war and political, economic and social upheaval. One of the greatest challenges is rebuilding the country's infrastructure; the city of Kabul, for instance, has been virtually destroyed. Reconstruction requires substantial amounts of foreign aid, but impeding the effort is the country's lack of basic security and administrative capacity—which cannot be improved unless aid is received. Canada was among the first countries to offer help to Afghanistan, converting \$447 million in outstanding loans to development assistance. Among the Canadian staff remaining in Islamabad after the evacuation were Canadian International Development Agency officers; their job was to monitor the humanitarian situation along the Afghanistan–Pakistan border, and to assess Afghanistan's assistance and reconstruction needs.

The lack of administrative capacity also becomes a challenge to diplomacy: Afghanistan has little in the way of telephone or fax lines, paper or typewriters, let alone computers and e-mail. This situation complicated planning for the visit of Deputy Prime Minister John Manley to Pakistan, India and Afghanistan in January; poor communications made arranging the Kabul portion of the trip very difficult, and High Commission staff had to adjust to an absence of the customary diplomatic protocol. An example was the response to Canada's announcement that it was restoring diplomatic relations with Afghanistan. When Mr. Manley met with Afghan Interim Administration Chairman Hamid Karzai on January 25, he introduced High Commissioner Sigurdson as Canada's newly appointed Ambassador to Afghanistan. Mr. Sigurdson said that he looked forward to presenting his letters credential in the near future. Mr. Karzai responded, "You just have. Welcome, Mr. Ambassador."

A task unfinished

For staff at Canada's missions abroad, particularly those in the eye of the storm, daily life is now permeated with a heightened sense of security. They take precautions by varying their route to work or avoiding large gatherings. Mail is handled differently since the anthrax scare. In a department geared toward crisis management, says Gerry Lisk, "There is a tremendous call on individuals to exert more effort than was involved before. At the missions, we really rely on teamwork, including headquarters and locally engaged staff."

The evacuated staff and their families were all back in Islamabad by the end of December. The work continues unabated as military operations proceed in Afghanistan. Across the border in Pakistan, a battle of a different nature is under way: to rid the country of terrorism, and restore law and order. On March 17, an attack on worshippers at a church in the diplomatic enclave of Islamabad killed 3 people and injured 40, including 3 Canadians. This was a reminder that the storm is not over. A proposal calls for new Canadian staff to join the mission this summer to help deal with the ongoing consequences of September 11. ♣

To find out more about the work of Canadian diplomats after the terrorist attacks visit <http://news.gc.ca> and click on "Special Interest" September 11: behind the scenes. For more facts visit Canada World Press www.dfaia-owad.gc.ca/content/eng/2001

THE ROAD TO KANANASKIS

Africa at the heart of the G8 Summit

On June 26 and 27, 2002, in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada will host the 28th Summit of the G8 (or Group of Seven leading industrialized nations plus the Russian Federation). While economic issues will have an important place on the Summit agenda, another focus of attention will be the future development of Africa. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien has made this a personal priority.

Poverty is the worst form of violence.

—Mahatma Gandhi

A continent adrift

This past February 1 at the World Economic Forum in New York City, Prime Minister Chrétien issued a ringing

call for a new international commitment to Africa:

"By every index or measure, Africa now lives on the fringes of our globalized world. And is at risk of falling so far behind that it may never catch up. We can't allow that to happen. All nations have a moral obligation and an economic interest in reversing these depressing statistics. Working as partners with Africans in the realization of their hopes is an affirmation of our common humanity."

To illustrate the urgent need for action, Mr. Chrétien cited some telling facts and figures:

- Africa today is the only continent where poverty is on the rise.

- In sub-Saharan Africa, almost half of the people live on less than a dollar a day.
- With 10 percent of the world's population, Africa accounts for just 1.5 percent of global trade.
- Life expectancy there is only 47 years, and declining.
- Of the 40 million people infected with HIV/AIDS more than two thirds live in sub-Saharan Africa, and nearly 70 percent of new cases occur there.
- More than 140 million young Africans are illiterate.
- One African in five is caught up in armed conflict.

Taking action

Last year at the G8 Summit in Genoa, Italy, a delegation of progressive African leaders tabled the New African Initiative (NAI). This proposal called for an in-depth examination of the situation in Africa, and the adoption of an action plan to meet the social, political and economic challenges facing the people of Africa. NAI has since been reworked by the African leaders with the assistance of the G8 countries, and is now called the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

According to the Prime Minister, NEPAD represents a profound opportunity to turn a page in human history. He believes that acting on its principles is not only the right thing to do but also "a good investment. An investment in our common future. In our collective security and common humanity."

Mr. Chrétien added that the quality of life brought to so many of us by globalization must also be open to everyone: "To have real meaning, prosperity must be accompanied by progress and hope for all."

To give shape to their commitment to Africa, the G8 countries—which asked Canada to take the lead on the issue—will adopt an action plan at Kananaskis. That plan is now being drafted by the Personal Representatives of the leaders of the G8 and the African nations.



A child with AIDS at a shelter in South Africa. The self-funded facility cares for abandoned children and children with AIDS whose families cannot look after them. According to latest UNAIDS/WHO estimates, HIV/AIDS took the lives of 3.0 million adults and children in 2001—2.3 million of them in sub-Saharan Africa.

PAST G7/G8 SUMMITS HELD IN CANADA

- 1981 Ottawa, Ontario, and Montebello, Quebec
- 1988 Toronto, Ontario
- 1995 Halifax, Nova Scotia

Mr. Chrétien has indicated that he is fully determined to see the discussions of the G8 leaders culminate in a concrete plan that will allow them to work in concert with African states to eliminate poverty and stimulate sustainable growth in Africa.


The Prime Minister feels that the action plan must encourage not only economic but also democratic development in Africa. "Africans have known far too much of war, of dispossession, of tyranny and of corruption," said Mr. Chrétien. "Many high hopes and noble ideals have been frustrated on African shores."

Canada's contribution

In its budget tabled in December 2001, the Government of Canada established a \$500 million Africa Fund to support the objectives of NEPAD through implementation of the action plan to be adopted in Kananaskis.

Further, over the past two decades Canada has forgiven over \$1 billion in foreign debt owed by developing countries. On January 1, 2001, the government stopped collecting debt payments from 11 heavily indebted poor countries that have undertaken reform. Assistance with debt reduction will continue to be one of the priorities of the Government of Canada.

But it is not enough to write off or reduce the debt of poor countries. Trade with Africa also has to be encouraged, along with investment there by the developed countries. In his speech in New York, Mr. Chrétien called on business leaders to join with Africans in a new partnership for development, growth and prosperity. "I do not issue this challenge lightly," he noted. "By any standard, reversing the decline of Africa will be a tall order."

Finally, Mr. Chrétien emphasized the concept of partnership: "Two years ago in Okinawa, Japan, I told my G8 colleagues that developing countries must be full partners in their own development. Accordingly, the G8 Africa Action Plan will be designed to help African governments that are committed to working with, and on behalf of, all of their citizens. To build durable peace and security. To address the crises in health and education. To strengthen democratic governance. And to open trade and investment." 

To learn more about the Kananaskis G8 Summit activities or to take part in electronic consultations, visit: www.g8.gc.ca

For questions or comments about the Summit, you can also telephone 1-888-316-2002 toll-free (within Canada only).

Kananaskis Village, Kananaskis Country, Alberta—the site for this year's two-day retreat-style G8 Summit in June



TEAM CANADA TRADE MISSION TARGETS RUSSIA AND GERMANY

Moscow, Berlin and Munich were the destinations for the first Team Canada trade mission to Europe from February 12 to 22, 2002. Leading it was Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, accompanied by provincial and territorial government leaders. Over 300 Canadian businesspeople participated.

The mission had two objectives:

- to strengthen Canada's presence in the booming Russian market by raising the profile of Canadian companies; and
- to expand Canada's already productive commercial and investment relations with Germany—the richest economy in Europe and the world's leading exporter.

New optimism in Russia

The increasingly open Russian economy is in full expansion. The country is at last making the transition to a market economy; with demand rapidly growing for a wider range of products and services, new outlets and opportunities are emerging. There is also renewed

optimism in the business community that the progress will continue.

In 2000, Canada's two-way trade with Russia reached nearly \$870 million. Canadian exports to Russia have risen steadily since 1999, and they climbed sharply in 2001. Excellent business prospects exist in many sectors, particularly oil and gas, agri-food, energy, mining, construction, transportation, information and communications technologies, and educational services.

Germany: an affluent partner

With 82 million affluent consumers and a highly advanced industrial structure, Germany offers unparalleled opportunities for Canadian businesses. As the world's largest importer and third-largest economy, Germany also provides strong links to both Western and Eastern Europe. Since reunification, the capital of Berlin has undergone an extraordinary renaissance, becoming the biggest construction site in Europe. Munich is home to some of the largest German corporations in key sectors such as the automotive industry, information technologies, the media and biotechnology.



Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Russian President Vladimir Putin exchange hockey jerseys in Moscow in February shortly before the Olympic medal round, in which Canada won gold and Russia bronze. Joining the leaders are players from the Canadian hockey team that won against Russia in the now-legendary 1972 series.



The participants in the Team Canada trade mission to Germany and Russia.
Front: Prime Minister Jean Chrétien is flanked by the premiers and territorial leaders;
International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew is far right.

Germany is a leading investment partner for Canada and is also one of our most important European markets in several sectors, including aerospace, automotive, financial, pharmaceutical services and cultural products. Bilateral trade between Canada and Germany totalled nearly \$11 billion in 2000, making Germany Canada's sixth-largest trading partner.

German television and print media gave wide coverage to the Team Canada mission, largely because the Prime Minister and premiers met with high-level German politicians.

During the mission, Alberta and Ontario established provincial marketing centres within the Canadian Consulate in Munich. Announced by Prime Minister Chrétien and Premiers Mike Harris and Ralph Klein, these will be resource centres for businesspeople from the two provinces who want to access the German market, and for Germans who want to know more about doing business in Ontario and Alberta.

In addition, the centres will act as gateways to the larger European market and help ensure that Alberta and Ontario remain globally competitive in trade and investment.

New agreements and more

The mission yielded over half a billion dollars in new agreements. Among the highlights:

Some 133 commercial agreements were signed in Moscow, Berlin and Munich, worth close to \$584 million. They included 41 firm contracts, 88 memorandums of understanding and letters of intent, and 4 planned investments. The agreements cover fields ranging from telecommunications and information technologies to aviation, medical technology, food products, education, housing and film co-production.

The mission promoted the 300 participating Canadian companies, including over 150 small and medium-sized enterprises. The visibility thus gained will support their marketing and expansion.

In Berlin and Munich, interest was keen in two seminars offered on investment, and three on science and technology in the fields of photonics, biotechnology and technology transfer. Each seminar drew over 900 senior executives from leading conglomerates as well as small and mid-sized German firms.

To learn more about Team Canada missions and our relations with Russia and Germany, visit:

www.tcm-mec.gc.ca

www.canadaeuropa.gc.ca

A new Canada–Russia Joint Action Plan was created to strengthen bilateral cooperation. Our two countries signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of nuclear energy, and concluded negotiations on a customs cooperation agreement.

A promising outlook

Prospects now look bright for our relations with Russia and Germany. Canada has close affinities with both countries—a significant asset in the ever more competitive international market. Said Prime Minister Chrétien, “This Team Canada mission to Europe has been an exceptional opportunity. I am convinced that it will lend new energy to our trade relations, which continue to stimulate jobs and drive economic growth in Canada.” 🍁

THE COMMONWEALTH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The first meeting of Commonwealth leaders of the 21st century was held in Coolum, Australia, from March 2 to 5, 2002. Its theme was “The Commonwealth in the 21st Century: Continuity and Renewal.” The Commonwealth today faces challenges that have led it to question how it can remain relevant while preserving its traditional strengths.

The four-day conference provided an opportunity for discussing a range of issues related to the international political and economic situation in a relaxed atmosphere. Although leaders spent much of their time on the issue of Zimbabwe, they also approved the Commonwealth Plan of Action on Terrorism, and a New Agenda for small states. In addition, they issued the Coolum Declaration; this endorsed

the report of the High Level Review Group and reiterated leaders’ support for the fundamental political and economic values of the Commonwealth.

Zimbabwe

The biggest challenge was to reach agreement on the stance to be taken with regard to the situation in Zimbabwe, where democratic life has suffered tremendous setbacks in recent months. Some leaders believed

that Zimbabwe should be suspended from the Commonwealth before the elections of March 9 and 10, in view of the anti-democratic measures imposed by President Robert Mugabe. Others, including Canada, felt that the Commonwealth should refrain from taking any action until it saw how the elections were conducted. Working under the principle of consensus, leaders finally agreed on a compromise inspired by Canada, whereby a “troika” of the previous, current and next Chairpersons-in-Office would decide on appropriate action upon receiving the report of the Common-

wealth Observer Group about the elections in Zimbabwe. If the report was negative, action could range from collective disapproval to suspension.

In their final Declaration, the leaders reiterated the 1991 Harare Declaration’s commitment to democracy—one of the essential conditions for membership in the Commonwealth—as well as the other fundamental principles of the Commonwealth, including good governance, the rule of law, freedom of expression and the protection of human rights.

Two weeks after the Coolum meeting, the Commonwealth Observer Group presented its report, which contained adverse conclusions. On March 19, the troika therefore decided to suspend Zimbabwe from the Councils of the Commonwealth for a period of one year, effective immediately. The decision will be reviewed after 12 months in light of any progress made by Zimbabwe on the basis of the principles of the Harare Declaration and reports by the Secretary-General. This validates the approach adopted at Coolum of awaiting the election observers’ report, and it reflects the commitment of the Commonwealth to upholding the Harare Principles.



Prime Minister Jean Chrétien (right) and Australian Prime Minister John Howard at the 2002 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Coolum, Australia, in March



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Head of the Commonwealth, is joined by participants in the Coolum meeting: from left, Prime Minister John Howard of Australia, Commonwealth Secretary-General Don McKinnon, Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom, President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, Prime Minister Bethuel Pakalitha Mosisili of Lesotho, King Mswati III of Swaziland, Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi of Samoa and President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda.

Challenges of the 21st century

In line with the theme for the meeting at Coolum, the leaders agreed to preserve the traditional strengths of the Commonwealth while adopting various measures to improve its effectiveness. To this end they approved the report of the High Level Review Group, which included a summary of the values and assets of the Commonwealth and a series of recommendations that provide direction for Commonwealth programs over the next decade. The aim is to ensure that the Commonwealth focuses on areas in which it has a comparative advantage, including youth programming, dealing with the digital divide and issues of globalization.

In view of the events of last September 11, another important focus in Coolum was strengthening cooperation between Commonwealth nations to more successfully fight terrorism, and an action plan on counterterrorism was adopted. Provisions in the plan include model laws to assist countries with the implementation of counterterrorism

instruments, enhanced mutual legal assistance and extradition arrangements, and assistance with implementing anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing arrangements. The leaders also recognized the effect these events had on the global economic slowdown, and stressed the need to assist developing and vulnerable countries to cope with the challenges of a more adverse external environment.

The leaders resolved to work closely together to increase trade liberalization and market access, which are essential to enable developing countries to rise out of poverty. They recognized the importance of sustainable and equitable growth, and called on governments to participate in the UN Conference on Financing for Development (March 18 to 22 in Monterrey, Mexico) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (August 26 to September 4 in Johannesburg, South Africa).

The Commonwealth recognizes the vulnerabilities of small states, and in Coolum leaders endorsed the New Agenda for the Commonwealth's

work on small states. The main objectives of the New Agenda are: to ensure that small states benefit from further integration into the global economy; to address the impact of climate change and natural disasters; and to mitigate the impact of the events of September 11 on small states.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting provided an excellent opportunity for Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to speak with his colleagues about issues of importance to Canada, including his plans for the G8 Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development. The Prime Minister also took the opportunity to note the importance, for countries that have not already done so, of signing and ratifying both the Convention on Anti-Personnel Mines and the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court.

Mr. Chrétien reiterated his support for the work of the Commonwealth and the importance of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings: "We represent different continents, cultures and histories. This is a most extraordinary forum because we can have access to the opinion of political leaders from all over the world. It's a great privilege for Canada." 🍁

To learn more about Canada and the Commonwealth and the Coolum meeting, go to www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca and click on "Foreign Policy," then "Multilateral Relations."

CANADA'S GIFT FOR AUSTRALIA'S CENTENARY

Australia celebrated its 100th birthday on January 1, 2001. Exactly a century before, six British colonies adopted a constitution creating the new Commonwealth of Australia. This was the second self-governing British overseas dominion; Canada was the first to be created in 1867.

To mark the centenary, Canada decided to give a permanent reminder of the close ties linking our two countries: a 10-metre-square stone pavement inlay constructed of 5 cubic metres of granite from the Canadian Shield and weighing around 17 tonnes, in vari-

ous colours and grains. The design was officially unveiled by Canada's High Commissioner to Australia, Jean T. Fournier, at a ceremony in Canberra on December 5, 2001, which was attended by Australian government dignitaries and media. At the event Professor Geoffrey Blainey—a leading Australian historian and chair of the National Council for the Centenary of Federation—recalled Canada's Centennial in 1967 and noted that Canada had, in many ways, paved the way for Australia's development as an independent nation of federated states.

The work was then shipped to Australia, where (under the auspices of the National Capital Authority) it was installed in the new Commonwealth Place development in Canberra's Parliamentary Zone. Installation was completed this past March 15.

A Canadian and Australian panel selected the design, which expresses the diversity of our shared cultural heritage. Two sections depict the night skies of the Northern and Southern hemispheres, joined by curved bands representing the friendship binding people to people and nation to nation. The pavement inlay reflects the rich diversity of our two societies and evokes the remarkably parallel

paths along which both countries have developed for more than a century. The work completes Speaker's Square, the focal point of a new amphitheatre in the Parliamentary Zone.

Canada's gift is the creation of Canadian sculptor John McEwen of Hillsdale (near Georgian Bay), Ontario, whose work can be found in museums, galleries and private collections across our country. One of Canada's leading artists, he was chosen from among 5 finalists out of the 43 Canadians who originally expressed interest in the project. Mr. McEwen's other major commissions include the RCAF Hall of Tribute in the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa, and *Search Light*, *Star Light*, *Spot Light*, a huge installation at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto. His work has been exhibited in the United States, Germany, France, Britain, and previously in Australia at the 1982 Sydney Biennale.

The Australia centenary gift project received financial support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Department of National Defence, Canadian Heritage, and the Canada Council for the Arts. 🍁



Canada's gift to Australia in commemoration of its Centenary of Federation. Renowned Canadian sculptor John McEwen designed the granite pavement inlay and installed it in the new Commonwealth Place development in Canberra in March 2002. The pavement consists of 100 coloured granite slabs, each 1 metre square. The gift will be officially dedicated at the opening of Commonwealth Place later in the spring.

To learn more about Canada's centenary gift to Australia, visit www.alfoff-mcmcd.gc.ca/australia/ox_gift_page_e.asp

For more information on OFN's Cultural Programs, visit www.alfoff-mcmcd.gc.ca/arts

Conflicts around the world

IS INTERVENTION JUSTIFIED?

On February 15, Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan participated in a seminar at the International Peace Academy in New York City. The topic was the report of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS). For several years Mr. Annan has been urging the international community to forge a consensus on the sensitive issue of the right of humanitarian intervention. Responding to his challenge, in fall 2000 Canada established the ICISS, with a membership of 12 (including 2 Canadians). After a year of intensive worldwide consultations, research, deliberation and discussions, last December the Commission released its report entitled *The Responsibility to Protect*.

Intervention versus sovereignty

Intervening in another country's affairs has always been a very sensitive issue. States with the military capability may be criticized when they step in to protect populations in danger—as happened in Somalia in 1992–93, Bosnia in 1995 and Kosovo in 1999. At other times they have been blamed for not intervening—as in Rwanda in 1994, when genocide took 800,000 lives.

The ICISS wrestled with one major question: Should the international community accept the sanctity of state sovereignty and do nothing to stop massive human rights violations, or should it intervene to protect populations in danger? The Commission unambiguously favoured intervention,



Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham (right) with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan (left) and International Peace Academy President David Malone at the February 2002 seminar on the report of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty.

with the proviso that any military action be a last resort and that the decision to intervene be based on a key principle: Sovereign states are responsible for protecting their own citizens from disasters that can be avoided, whether mass murder, systematic rape or famine; but when they are unwilling or unable to act, the responsibility must be borne by the international community.

In the view of the Commission, this responsibility of the international community—and especially of the UN Security Council—entails certain explicit obligations. Among them: the responsibility to prevent conflicts by eliminating their root causes and to undertake reconstruction in the aftermath of a conflict.

Changing the discourse of diplomacy

The ICISS report was warmly welcomed by Minister Graham, who commented, “By changing the discourse of diplomacy to ‘the responsibility to protect,’ the Commission has made an extraordinary contribution to the

theory of international affairs.” He added that he was very satisfied with the recommendations of the report, and that Canada would now play a leading role in ensuring that it receives appropriate follow-up and sustained, positive and constructive attention from the international community.

Mr. Annan thanked Canada for establishing the ICISS and lauded the work of the Commission. To ICISS members he said, “How to protect individual lives while maintaining and even strengthening the sovereignty of states has become clearer with the publication of this report. You are taking away the last excuses of the international community for doing nothing when doing something can save lives.” ■

On the Web site of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, you can find the text of its report, biographies of Commission members and other related information. Visit: www.iciss-tlisse.gc.ca

NEWS BRIEFS

Canada renews diplomatic ties with Afghanistan

Canada officially renewed diplomatic relations with Afghanistan in late January 2002. Ties had been broken off in 1979 after the country was invaded by Soviet troops.

Until a separate Canadian diplomatic mission is established in Kabul, relations with Afghanistan will be the responsibility of Canada's High Commissioner to Pakistan, Konrad Sigurdson, based in Islamabad.

Canada is committed to participating in the reconstruction of Afghanistan and improving the living conditions of its citizens. Since 1990, Canada has contributed \$160 million in humanitarian aid for the country. At the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held in Tokyo on January 21–22, Canada pledged an additional \$100 million in humanitarian and reconstruction aid.

International Criminal Court soon to become reality

As of March 21, 2002, 56 of the 139 signatory states had ratified the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court. Only four more ratifications are needed for the Statute to enter into force. Canada played a key role in the adoption of the Statute in 1998 and was one of the first countries to ratify it on July 7, 2000. Now we are working tirelessly to make the Court a reality. Canada's Ambassador to Sweden, Philippe Kirsch, is Chair of the Preparatory Commission set up to draft the technical documents required for the Court's operation.

The International Criminal Court will be a permanent tribunal mandated to prosecute individuals charged with genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, where national judicial systems cannot or will not do so. Up to now, the perpetrators of such crimes have rarely been brought to justice, much less convicted. The Court will end this culture of impunity.

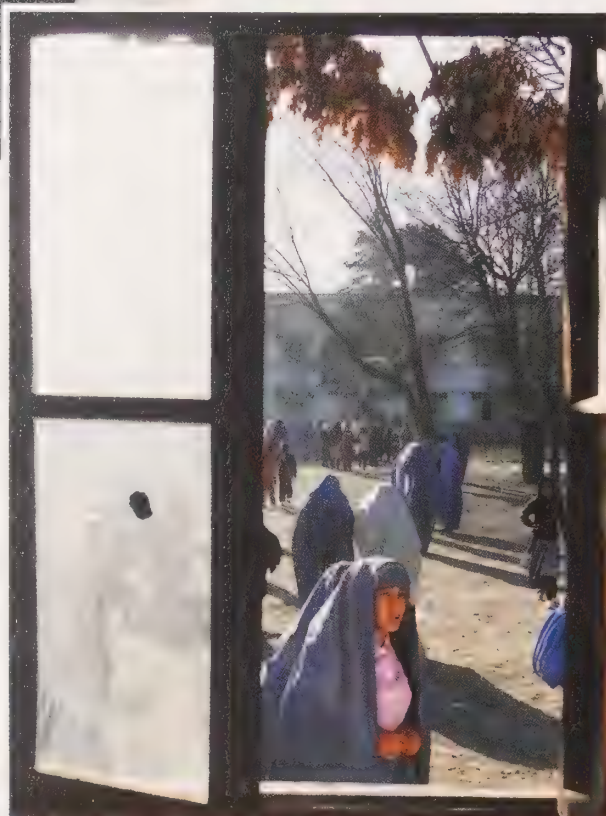
International youth exchanges

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has just launched its annual campaign to promote international youth exchange programs. The Department manages some 60 bilateral and multilateral exchange programs jointly with over 20 countries in Europe, Asia and the Americas. Last year, the programs



In Kabul, Afghanistan, on December 31, 2001, young girls attend class at the Zargouna School.

This was the school's first day of classes since it was closed six years before under the Taliban regime.



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enabled more than 17,000 young Canadians to travel to destinations throughout the world, and brought roughly the same number of young people from other countries to Canada.

DFAIT manages four types of program: the Working Holiday Program, the Student Work Abroad Program, the Young Workers' Exchange Program and the Co-op Program (work/study abroad).

Aimed primarily at youth aged 18 to 30, the programs do not provide financial assistance. Instead, they help young people obtain temporary permits to work in another country, and they provide advice on finding temporary employment abroad. This is an opportunity to acquire useful skills without disruption to the labour market in Canada or abroad. Participants can become acquainted with the culture of their host country and with globalization issues—an unforgettable experience.

For more information, contact: International Youth Programs Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2; tel. 1-888 877-7098 (toll-free), or (613) 996-4527 and (613) 992-5966; fax (613) 995-3238; Web site www.canada123go.ca



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DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

The G8 Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta, the 28th Economic Summit since 1975, will be the fourth to be held in Canada and the first in Western Canada. Previous summits were held in Halifax, Nova Scotia (1995), Toronto, Ontario (1988), and Ottawa, Ontario, and Montebello, Quebec (1981).



Mount Lorette and Barrier Lake, Kananaskis Trail, Kananaskis Country, Alberta. This beautiful, unspoiled wilderness will be the setting for the 2002 G8 Summit in June, hosted by Canada.

The economies of the G8 countries account for 48 percent of the global economy, 80 percent of economic activity in developed countries and 49 percent of international trade. In contrast, Africa's share of world trade is less than 2 percent. The New Partnership for Africa's Development, sponsored by the G8, seeks to help close that gap.

In the run-up to the June 26–27, 2002, G8 Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has set up a Web site (www.g8.gc.ca) with a host of up-to-date information on the G8, member countries, agenda items and preparations. The site includes a section for youth and teachers.

Canada was one of the founding members of the Commonwealth in 1931 and is still one of its pillars. Our annual contribution to Commonwealth institutions and programs totals just over \$27 million. The Commonwealth has 54 member countries.

Canada World View

Canada hosts the 28th G8 Summit

Priority: Africa
Action Plan



About

Canada World View

Published quarterly in English and French, *Canada World View* provides an overview of Canada's perspective on foreign policy issues and features international Canadian initiatives and contributions.

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Our cover

A boy passes by on AIDS mural outside
a government building in Maputo,
Mozambique, on World AIDS Day on
December 1, 2001. Of the more than
40 million people in the world infected
with HIV/AIDS, over two-thirds live in
Africa. UNAIDS/WHO estimates are that
HIV/AIDS took the lives of 3 million adults
and children in 2001—2.3 million of
them in sub-Saharan Africa.

At the 2001 G8 Summit in Genoa,
the Global Fund to fight against AIDS,
tuberculosis and malaria was created;
to date, nearly US\$2 billion has been
pledged by the international community.
(Photo: Associated Press AP)

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Prime Minister Chrétien greets villagers in Benin, near Abuja, Nigeria, on his tour of six African countries in April 2002.

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MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER JEAN CHRÉTIEN

For two days this summer, the eyes of the world will be on Kananaskis, Alberta, as Canada proudly hosts the 28th G8 Summit.

On June 26 and 27, 2002, I will welcome to Canada the leaders of France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as the President of the European Commission and the President of the Government of Spain, as representatives of the European Union.

Kananaskis is located amid the breathtaking foothills of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. It is an ideal location for the focused and businesslike meeting my G8 partners and I would like to have.

While Canada has previously hosted three G8 summits, 2002 will mark the first time the summit has been held in western Canada. The meeting will provide a prime opportunity for showcasing the energy, dynamism and beauty of Alberta and the warmth of Albertans.

The agenda will be focused and substantive. We will discuss ways to strengthen global economic growth and fight terrorism. But the main theme is one I am especially committed to: how the G8 partners can work with African countries on strengthening governance, peace and security, education and health, and sustainable economic growth on that continent.

At the summit, we will adopt a G8 Africa Action Plan that responds

to the New Partnership for Africa's Development—an ambitious initiative conceived by some of Africa's most progressive leaders to reverse the marginalization of Africa from the globalization process. This visionary document was keenly endorsed by G8 leaders at the 2001 summit in Genoa. The objective of the Action Plan is to help define a new way of working with Africa on the basis of mutual obligations and accountability and of African ownership and leadership of the development process.

Other G8 issues on which we will seek progress in 2002 include reducing global poverty, promoting universal primary education, halting the spread of HIV/AIDS, and bridging the digital divide.

The Kananaskis summit will be the culmination of a year-long process. We will take stock of our achievements and map out our work for the future. Following the summit, a short Chair's Statement—instead of a lengthy, negotiated communiqué—will be issued, reflecting the leaders' talks.

I encourage you to find out more about Canada's hosting of the 2002 G8 process and the Kananaskis summit by visiting www.g8.gc.ca 🍁



Prime Minister
Jean Chrétien

SUMMIT VENUES

- 1975 – Rambouillet, France
- 1976 – San Juan, Puerto Rico, U.S.
- 1977 – London, U.K.
- 1978 – Bonn, Germany
- 1979 – Tokyo, Japan
- 1980 – Venice, Italy
- 1981 – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- 1982 – Versailles, France
- 1983 – Williamsburg, U.S.
- 1984 – London, U.K.
- 1985 – Bonn, Germany
- 1986 – Tokyo, Japan
- 1987 – Venice, Italy
- 1988 – Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 1989 – Paris, France
- 1990 – Houston, U.S.
- 1991 – London, U.K.
- 1992 – Munich, Germany
- 1993 – Tokyo, Japan
- 1994 – Naples, Italy
- 1995 – Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- 1996 – Lyon, France
- 1997 – Denver, U.S.
- 1998 – Birmingham, U.K.
- 1999 – Köln, Germany
- 2000 – Okinawa, Japan
- 2001 – Genoa, Italy
- 2002 – Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada

CALENDAR

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

JUNE

June 3–7

International Trade Minister
Pierre Pettigrew leads trade mission
to Mexico
(Mexico City, Monterrey)

June 12–13

G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting
Whistler, British Columbia

June 14–15

G7 Finance Ministers' Meeting
Halifax, Nova Scotia

June 17

World Day to Combat
Desertification and Drought

June 20

World Refugee Day

June 26–27

G8 Summit
Kananaskis, Alberta

JULY

July 1

Canada Day

July 7–12

XIV International Conference on AIDS
Barcelona, Spain

AUGUST

August 9

International Day of the World's
Indigenous People

August 12

International Youth Day

August 26–September 4

World Summit on Sustainable
Development
Johannesburg, South Africa

SEPTEMBER

September 7–8

APEC Meeting of Finance Ministers
Los Cabos, Mexico

September 8

International Literacy Day

September 10

International Day of Peace
Opening of the United Nations
General Assembly
New York, U.S.A.

September 16–20

IV Conference of the States Parties
of the Ottawa Convention
Geneva, Switzerland

OCTOBER

October 16

World Food Day

October 18–20

La Francophonie Summit
Beirut, Lebanon

CULTURE AND CANADIAN STUDIES

JULY

July 12–21

Great Northern Arts Festival
Inuvik, Northwest Territories

AUGUST

August 8–11

Conference of the Nordic Association
for Canadian Studies
Stockholm, Sweden

August 22–September 2

Montreal World Film Festival
Montreal, Quebec

SEPTEMBER

September 5–14

Toronto International Film Festival
Toronto, Ontario

September 14–22

Atlantic Film Festival
Halifax, Nova Scotia

September 26–October 11

Vancouver International Film Festival
Vancouver, British Columbia

September 26–30

Art Forum Berlin
Berlin, Germany

September 26–November 3

Montreal Biennale
Montreal, Quebec

International Contemporary
Art Fair (FIAC)
Paris, France

OCTOBER

October 9–14

Frankfurt Book Fair
Frankfurt, Germany

October 10–20

Montreal International Festival of
New Cinema and New Media
Montreal, Quebec

ROCK STEADY

Canada's Rockies will be the backdrop for the Kananaskis G8 Summit

In June, Canada will play host to presidents and prime ministers from the world's leading industrialized nations—France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States—along with the European Commission and Spain, which currently holds the presidency of the European Council.

Located southwest of Calgary in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies, picture-perfect Kananaskis, Alberta, is one of Canada's natural wonders: a spectacular ecological area that boasts several provincial parks and is famed for its pristine rivers and lakes.

As chair of the G8 this year, Canada will use these scenic hills and lakes as a backdrop for a summit stamped with a unique character. While Canada has hosted G7 and G8 summits before, in Ottawa (1981), Toronto (1988) and Halifax (1995), this is the first one to be held in western Canada.

"The word summit tends to evoke images either of great pomp and ceremony or, more recently, of violent clashes in the streets between demonstrators and police," says Robert Fowler, Canada's ambassador to Italy as well as the Prime Minister's personal representative for Africa and the senior Canadian official responsible for preparing the Kananaskis summit. "It is for this reason that the Prime Minister has, with the agreement of his G8 colleagues, asked me to prepare a different summit, not just a summit done differently. A retreat-style summit that is focused—one of substance, not form. These are my marching orders for Kananaskis."

Informal. Focused. Substantive. These will be the hallmarks of the 2002 summit.

In order to keep the agenda focused and uncluttered, leaders will address three key global challenges: strengthening global economic growth, building a new partnership for Africa's development, and fighting international terrorism.

Of the three, the principal focus of discussion will be a new partnership for Africa. It is an issue close to the heart



Hiking in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies in Kananaskis Country, Alberta

of Prime Minister Chrétien, the dean of the group and a man personally committed to ending Africa's continuing economic marginalization. In April, he spent 10 days visiting six African countries in pursuit of a plan to work with African governments to build lasting peace and security, strengthen democratic governance, address health and education issues, and open trade and investment.

"Poverty is the worst form of violence," Mr. Chrétien told a gathering of the World Economic Forum in New York in February, quoting the pacifist Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi. "Nowhere is this more true than in Africa. The situation throughout much of the continent is bad, and getting worse."

As G8 chair, Canada is leading the development of the G8 Africa Action Plan [see page 7], the roots of which go back to last year's meeting in Genoa, Italy. At Prime Minister Chrétien's initiative, G8 leaders meeting in Genoa agreed to develop a "concrete Action Plan" in support of the New African Initiative, now called the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The G8 Action Plan will be designed to work with African governments that are committed to implementing NEPAD's principles. This means governments that are committed to working on behalf of their citizens to build durable peace and security, strengthen democratic governance, address the crises in health and education, and open trade and investment.

"It is a vision founded on freedom and democracy, and the principle that the key to progress in Africa lies, first and foremost, with Africans," Mr. Chrétien said in describing the Action Plan to delegates at the Forum.

Africa may be front and centre at the G8, but it will not be the only subject of discussion.

As Canada, Europe and the United States emerge carefully from one of their mildest post-war recessions, and as Japan still struggles with its most severe downturn ever, leaders will also focus on strengthening economic growth both within their own countries and more broadly. The G8 countries are the engine of global growth, accounting

for nearly half (48 percent) of the world's economic output. However, an important area of leaders' discussions will be how to ensure that the other half is sustainable, and that no part of the world is excluded.

Finance ministers and central bank governors, meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on June 14 and 15, will have much to contribute to this effort. Like their counterparts responsible for justice and interior, energy, labour, environment and foreign affairs, finance ministers meet in advance of G8 summits in a far-reaching, policy-building process to support the work of their leaders. In addition to these important meetings, consultations take place through such bodies as the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations.

Not surprisingly, terrorism will also be on the agenda at Kananaskis. Since the late 1970s, G7 and G8 meetings have made significant progress in the fight against terrorism, serving as catalysts for the negotiation of no fewer than 12 United Nations counterterrorism conventions. After the attacks of September 11, G8 leaders asked their ministers to draw up a list of specific measures, including mechanisms to stop the flow of funds to terrorists, improve aviation security, bring about stricter control of arms exports and enhance security cooperation. Many of these measures will be discussed at Kananaskis. ♣



The G8 leaders at the 2001 G8 Summit in Genoa, Italy, where African leaders first proposed the New African Initiative (now the New Partnership for Africa's Development). As G8 chair of this year's summit, Canada is leading the development of the G8 Africa Action Plan.

(left to right): Junichiro Koizumi (Japan), Tony Blair (U. K.), George W. Bush (U. S. A.), Jacques Chirac (France), Silvio Berlusconi (Italy), Vladimir Putin (Russia), Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Gerhard Schröder (Germany), Guy Verhofstadt (Belgium), Romano Prodi (European Commission)

Africa's New Partnership

A plan by Africans for Africans

When elephants fight it is the grass that suffers, say the Kikuyu people of Kenya. The East African proverb could have been written with the Cold War in mind, or the many localized conflicts that have prevented Africa's development and impoverished millions of people from Côte d'Ivoire to the island of Zanzibar.

Today, Africa is the only continent where poverty is on the rise. Almost half of the 673 million people south of the Sahara live on less than one dollar a day. And of the more than 40 million people in the world infected with HIV/AIDS, over two-thirds are in Africa. Clearly, many donor governments are frustrated that there is not more to show for decades of development assistance to Africa and are convinced that some sort of new approach is required.

At last year's G8 Summit in Genoa, African leaders presented the New African Initiative, now called the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Designed by progressive African leaders, it was endorsed by 53 members of the African Union (the successor, as of July 2002, to the Organization of African Unity).

NEPAD is the first comprehensive plan for African development to have originated in—and been supported throughout—Africa. It addresses education, health, good governance, action against corruption, market access and much more. It also focuses on those countries that are prepared to take political and economic decisions to produce stable markets in which to attract new private capital, the cornerstone of development efforts in the 21st century.

G8 leaders in Genoa enthusiastically supported the New African Initiative. They agreed to develop a concrete action plan to support its goals and asked Canada, as G8 chair in 2002, to lead the plan's development. Since the beginning of the new year, the Prime Minister's personal representative for Africa and for the Kananaskis summit, Ambassador Robert Fowler, has been meeting with other G8 representatives and working closely with African representatives to determine how the G8 can best respond to this initiative and where it can add real value. G8 leaders will endorse this plan when they meet in Kananaskis.



Photo: Associated Press AP

Children at a refugee camp in central Sierra Leone. This West African nation was ravaged by over 10 years of civil war, resulting in thousands of displaced people. With 17 million Africans either refugees or internally displaced, Africa has the largest concentration of displaced persons in the world.

"The underlying objective of the G8 Africa Action Plan is not to provide a massive infusion of funding nor to underwrite the actions of others," says Ambassador Fowler. "The goal is to put in place a new partnership that will unlock greater public and private capital over the long term."

At the same time, Canada recognizes that financial and technical resources will be needed in the context of this new partnership. It has created the Canada Fund for Africa, a \$500 million fund in support of the Action Plan, to be disbursed only after the plan is formally adopted by G8 leaders.

The fund is just one part of Canada's long history of engagement with Africa. Through its own efforts in promoting human security and conflict prevention, plus those of multilateral organizations to which Canada belongs, such as the United Nations, La Francophonie and the Commonwealth, Canada has long linked Africa's development to just systems of law and governance. These are the essential guarantors of peace and security and, in turn, economic development. In addition to the Canada Fund for Africa, the Government of Canada recently cancelled some \$1 billion of African debt and announced it would increase international assistance by 8 percent per year for the foreseeable future. 🍀

To learn more about the agenda and preparations for the Kananaskis G8 Summit, visit www.g8.gc.ca

For questions or comments about the G8 Summit, you can call the toll-free line: 1-888-316-2002 (within Canada and the United States only).

O KANANASKIS: WE STAND ON GUARD FOR THEE

Protecting the natural beauty of the summit venue

Bringing world leaders to a wilderness area such as southwestern Alberta's Kananaskis Country requires sensitivity to environmental concerns. That's why, from the very beginning, Canadian G8 summit planners took the unprecedented step of establishing an Environmental Affairs directorate. The directorate is providing summit planners with environmental guidance. During this year's summit, the wildlands are going to be safeguarded as much as the leaders themselves.

Why go to such a remote area for a G8 summit? For this meeting, in Canada for the first time in seven years and in western Canada for the first time, the Prime Minister envisioned a small, retreat-style setting that would allow the leaders to spend as much time as

possible in productive and frank discussions.

That vision led organizers to Kananaskis Village—a small pedestrian-oriented wilderness resort area. Albertans have a deep love for Kananaskis Country. The spectacular 4,000 square-kilometre

natural values of Kananaskis Country will be a priority."

Identifying those natural values—what Bruce Leeson describes as "special species, spaces and times"—was the first task of the directorate. "A major component of our enviro-safe program is compiling information that informs us about places we shouldn't go, and times we shouldn't go, as well as about sensitive species we must avoid. We're concentrating on animals that have a stressful reaction to people, such as grizzlies, cougars, and cow moose and cow elk with calves."

Dr. Leeson, who has 30 years of experience as an ecological integrity specialist with Parks Canada and intimate knowledge of the Kananaskis area, is providing environmental guidance to all the other planning directorates about each identified species and space.

The location of the secure-zone perimeter, for example, and all other security plans are being established taking into account the sensitive species, spaces and times identified by Bruce Leeson and his team.

The effort doesn't stop there. Training is being provided to security forces so that they can undertake their duties with the least impact on the environment and avoid hazards inherent in the wildlands.

Certain "spaces" will simply be made off-limits to personnel. These include areas containing special flora, as well as the habitats of specific creatures, such as the small shallow ponds that are home to the long-toed salamander, and the river shorelines where harlequin ducks will be nesting at the end of June. In the case of the ducks, constant disturbance by people could lead to nesting



Elk is among the many animal species found in Kananaskis Country.

region has an incredible abundance and diversity of animal and plant species.

The government committed itself to taking extraordinary care to avoid adverse environmental effects. That commitment began with the appointment of Bruce Leeson as the first-ever G8 Director of Environmental Affairs. Dr. Leeson's directorate has been given authority equal to that of all the other summit planning directorates to ensure that environmental considerations are integrated into all areas of decision making. "In all G8 plans and decisions," explains Dr. Leeson, "protecting the special



failure. "The ducks nest within two metres of shore, so we are saying that people must stay back 10 metres from the shoreline."

Dr. Leeson is aware of two pregnant moose in the area and is keeping tabs on their location so that it can be avoided at the end of June. Other precautions include no-fly zones for helicopters to establish minimum distances from the Rocky Mountain goats and bighorn sheep roaming the alpine country with their young.

In addition, the directorate is aware of the rich Stoney Nakoda cultural, spiritual and ceremonial heritage in the Kananaskis Valley and is taking special care not to interfere with or diminish Native values.

Keeping the public informed on the steps being taken to protect the environment has been a priority for the summit planners from the beginning. Public outreach has included presentations to schools and community organizations, regular contributions to the G8 monthly

newsletter, and ongoing dialogue with an "Enviro-Network" of local and national environmental groups.

Canada's approach to this summit—reflected in both its location and the environmental considerations taken into account—is unprecedented in the history of G8 meetings. If remote areas become the preferred setting for future summits, the Canadian effort could pave the way for safeguarding the environmental integrity of areas far beyond Kananaskis. ♣

Mt. Kidd,
Kananaskis
Country, Alberta

For more details about the G8 Summit
venue, visit www.g8.gc.ca and click on
"Kananaskis."

PRIME MINISTER CHRÉTIEN'S PRE-G8 AFRICAN TOUR – APRIL 2002

Secretary of State
(Latin America
and Africa)
Denis Paradis
with villagers in
Bamishi, near
Abuja, Nigeria

The Prime Minister
is welcomed by a
young girl at Le
Palais de la Culture
in Algiers, Algeria.

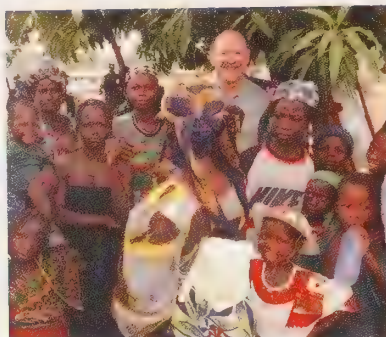
Traditional dancers
and musicians in
Abuja, Nigeria

Learning the Arabic
alphabet at the
Centre d'accueil
pour enfants en
situation précaire
de Sidi Moussa in
Rabat, Morocco

>>
A broom/mop
seller in Addis
Ababa, Ethiopia

>>
A village kitchen in
Bamishi, Nigeria

>>
The Prime Minister
tours the training
room at the
Centre national
de ressources
éducatives in
Dakar, Senegal.



Photos: Serge Fournier



Mrs. Aline Chrétien and Chief (Mrs.) Stella Obasanjo help administer a polio vaccine in the village of Bamishi, Nigeria.



(from left) MP Mauril Bélanger, MP Jean Augustine and MP Ovid Jackson with a group of children in Sandafa village, Ethiopia



<< Prime Minister Chrétien, Ambassador Robert Fowler (the Prime Minister's personal representative for Africa and the G8 Summit) (far right), and Canada's Ambassador to Ethiopia, John Schram, present Canadian soccer jerseys to the Semi-Urban Youth Football Team in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

< The Prime Minister and Mrs. Aline Chrétien receive gifts from village officials in Bamishi, Nigeria.



<< Prime Minister Chrétien fills a water jug at the Water and Sanitation Services for the Poor and Destitute Project in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

< Prime Minister Chrétien and former South African President Nelson Mandela (Mr. Mandela became only the second honorary Canadian citizen in November 2001.)



<< Mrs. Aline Chrétien and Mrs. Patricia Dunberry, the wife of Canada's Ambassador to Morocco (second from left), visit the Centre d'accueil pour enfants en situation précaire de Sidi Moussa in Rabat, Morocco.

A BRIGHTER FUTURE

for the world's last great economic frontier

Despite the developed world's perception of Africa as uniformly plagued by political instability, conflict and corruption, sub-Saharan Africa has led the world in economic growth over the past few years. In fact, Africa is the highest profit-yielding destination for foreign investment. Moreover, a number of governments in the subcontinent are taking steps to improve the business climate in their countries by amending legislation, reducing corruption, liberalizing trade and investment restrictions, and limiting currency controls.



Mozal Smelter Project—SNC-Lavalin/Murray & Roberts Joint Venture, near Maputo, Mozambique

Canada and its G8 colleagues have made a commitment to respond to Africa's call for enhanced trade and investment and to work with African countries to create a framework that will increase investment—both domestic and foreign—in the continent. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), designed by African leaders, seeks to stimulate much-needed economic development and poverty reduction by creating a new partnership in the areas of investment, trade and development assistance. G8 leaders at the Kananaskis summit hope to encourage African governments to put in place the policies and institutions necessary

to promote sustained economic growth and reduce marginalization.

NEPAD calls for good economic and political governance, accountability and peer review as part of the broader strategy to bring Africa into the mainstream of the global economy, thereby decreasing its dependence on aid. All this means increased business opportunities for Canadian companies.

The Canadian advantage

Canadian companies have enjoyed a number of noteworthy successes in doing business with Africa. Some have been introduced to the continent via the Canadian International Development Agency's Industrial Cooperation Program (CIDA-INC), which provides support to Canadian firms seeking to invest in developing countries and promotes partnerships between the Canadian private sector and the host country client-partners.

Canada has a distinct advantage in Africa that it can build upon to strengthen its economic links with the continent. It does not carry the burden of colonialism, and it enjoys solid relations with many African countries through its membership in both La Francophonie and the Commonwealth. French and English

are the two main languages of business in sub-Saharan Africa, while French is the official working language in several North African countries. In many cases, these linguistic ties are complemented by cultural familiarity: many Africans have been educated in Canada or by Canadian teachers and are therefore familiar with Canadian culture and business practices.

Canadian exports to sub-Saharan Africa in 2001 were about 14 percent higher than in 2000. In 2001, Canada exported \$690 million in goods to sub-Saharan Africa and imported goods worth \$1.02 billion, while Canadian sales of services to the region were about \$1 billion and purchases of services totalled around \$300 million. Last year, Export Development Canada supported 207 exporters in 31 African countries; one-quarter of the business volume was in North Africa and three-quarters was in sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2001, CIDA-INC disbursed close to \$10 million to support Canadian companies doing business in sub-Saharan Africa, representing almost one-quarter of the program's total disbursements for that year.

The telecommunications sector is one of the strongest in Africa, with

Canadian companies supplying much of the backbone equipment for the newly privatized telecom and cellular companies on the continent. Other sectors where Canadian companies are present include water supply, power generation, and oil and gas. Africa's vast wealth of resources offers many lucrative business opportunities. Canada is the number one investor in the mining sector in sub-Saharan Africa, and 50 percent of all offshore mining exploration in Africa is carried out by Canadian companies.

Success stories

Canadian companies currently involved in Africa range from a small bed and breakfast in Ghana (The Four Villages Inn), run by a Canadian-Ghanaian couple, to a documentary film co-production unit in South Africa, to telecommunications companies like WaveRider Communications Inc., based in

Toronto, which is helping Nigerian companies use the Internet to improve their business. In Lagos, a bank is using WaveRider's wireless access equipment to establish a communications link between each of its branches throughout the city.

Then there are the huge corporations. Bombardier has projects in Uganda and Senegal, and, among other contracts, SNC-Lavalin operates an aluminum smelter construction project in Mozambique. Mining giant Placer Dome has a partnership in a gold mine in South Africa. Nortel Networks has formed a partnership with SchoolNet SA, a non-profit South African organization supported by Canada's International Development Research Centre, which promotes the use of information and communications technologies in schools. This past January, Nelson Mandela opened the third centre set up through this partnership.

The Canadian Bank Note Company, based in Ottawa, produces the paper currency for Ethiopia, supplies national identity cards and driver's licences to



Tecsalt International's wastewater system rehabilitation project, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Togo, and provides passports to Mali and equipment for the production of passports to Burkina Faso. The Royal Canadian Mint has been awarded three contracts to mint coins for the Banque Centrale de Tunisie.

Among the Canadian companies with high profiles in Africa is the Montreal engineering consulting firm Tecsalt International, which is involved in projects in a number of countries, including Algeria, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Madagascar, Mali and Tanzania. Seventy percent of its international activity takes place in Africa. One of the company's projects involves the rehabilitation of the wastewater system in Madagascar. Another is an \$80 million contract with the Ministry of Transport of Gabon. The contract is for plans and specifications to rebuild and modernize the country's 10 regional airports, as well as to upgrade the runways and safety facilities—such as air traffic control, radar and baggage control—at the country's two main airports.

"Doing business in Gabon is no piece of cake," concedes company president Marc Parent, "but the Gabonese are well aware of Canada's reputation in technology and that we have French as a common language."



Photo: Tecsalt International

Tecsalt International's provincial airports rehabilitation project, Lambasena Airport, Gabon

First Calgary Petroleum has a contract to carry out 3D seismic research in southern Algeria. The 3D data will make it possible to determine with precision the optimum location for oil wells to be drilled later in 2002.

Even small Canadian entrepreneurs can play a part in furthering trade and investment in Africa. Ottawa's Benjamin Amosah has initiated a number of deals to develop the potential of the sub-Saharan food industries. Through his holding company, K-Okuta Group of Companies International, Inc., Mr. Amosah has invested in aquaculture ventures in Cameroon, Guinea, Madagascar and Mozambique, all of which export the bulk of their product to markets in the European Union.

A native of Ghana, Mr. Amosah is well aware of the problems in sub-Saharan Africa, but his business philosophy is to seek out the trouble spots. "Actually, I go looking for

them, because where the risk is high, the investment returns can be even higher," he says. But it goes deeper than that. Firmly committed to Africa's development, Ben Amosah believes that "creating jobs for people, something for them to do other than waiting for handouts from development agencies," creates enormous good will toward investors. "The result is a positive attitude toward doing the job right, which along with lower wages makes for an economically sound rationale for my investments."

However, despite Mr. Amosah's optimistic outlook for doing business in sub-Saharan Africa, the region still suffers from an array of problems: heavy debt burdens, over-reliance on one or two commodities, political conflicts, drought and HIV/AIDS.

Hope for a new Africa

According to Export Development Canada's fall 2001 *Outlook for*

Emerging Markets, Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia and South Africa remain the strongest economies in sub-Saharan Africa, while Senegal, in West Africa, has made commendable reform progress and has received debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative as international efforts to reduce debt gain ground.



Francine Roy of the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) and a Mali passport office employee work on the CBN-designed technology for issuing passports

For more information on how DFAIT can help Canadian companies do business in Africa, go to www.dfa-it-maeci.gc.ca and click on "International Trade," then "Canadian Trade Commissioner Service," or "Countries and Regions," then "Middle East and North Africa" or "Sub-Saharan Africa."

Canada has made trade inroads in many African countries. In November 2001, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Industry Canada organized a trade mission to Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa, which included participation in ITU Telecom Africa, the premier telecommunications event in Africa, held in Johannesburg. A water sector mission is planned for 2002 to six countries in West Africa. As well, there have been smaller trade delegations to Tunisia and Morocco.

Africa is the next Asia.

—Benjamin Amosah

Benjamin Amosah's entrepreneurial spirit makes him see a bright future for Africa. "Africa is the next Asia," he says confidently. "And sooner, rather than later, we will be talking about the African economic miracle the same way we do about Asia's." If he's right, that will mean a truly new Africa for Africans. 🍀

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF AFRICANS

By definition, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) will transform the nature of the relationship between African countries and the industrialized world. The new vision takes a fresh look at issues such as governance, peace and security, education and health, and trade and investment. In the process, it puts Africa firmly in the driver's seat to combat the continent's economic marginalization.

At the same time, the international community has an important role to play. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), for example, has continued to promote a variety of groundbreaking programs—from support for a special court in Sierra Leone, to training for human rights activists in Sudan, to community-based conflict resolution efforts in Liberia. DFAIT, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play equally important roles.

In fact, Canadians from all walks of life are contributing to an African renaissance.

Tackling polio in Nigeria

With support from people like Dr. Ali Outtara, Canada is helping to rid Africa of an ancient scourge: poliomyelitis, commonly known as polio, a paralyzing disease.

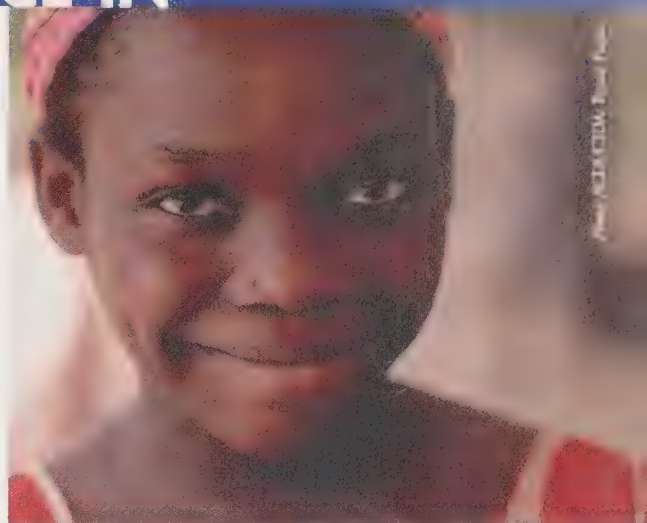
Dr. Outtara, who arrived in Canada from Côte d'Ivoire in 1998, spent three months in Nigeria in 2001 to help with its massive National

Immunization Days campaign on behalf of the Canadian International Immunization Initiative. This program, which supports the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF on different aspects of the global polio eradication campaign, is managed by the Canadian Public Health Association with financial support from CIDA.

In addition to preparing for the campaign, Dr. Outtara helped train doctors, nurses and "vaccinators" to administer the oral vaccine. He also evaluated the results.

The campaign posed different types of challenges. Polio vaccine, for example, needs to be kept cold, but refrigerators in rural areas are hard to find. When they do exist, they often don't work, or there's no electricity. Despite these technical obstacles, the various teams largely managed to maintain the "cold chain."

Throughout the campaign, an army of volunteers went door to door. When the children had been vaccinated, the volunteers marked a cross on



Nigerian village girl

the house. In this way, they were able to keep track of their work. Ultimately, they reached about 90 percent of children. In a country with approximately 21 million children, that's a huge accomplishment.

"Our goal was to reach all children from zero to 59 months," says Dr. Outtara. "We didn't completely succeed, but we did make a lot of progress."

Promoting the rights of girls and women

Kerline Joseph and Hélène Dion may be at different stages of their academic careers, but the two women are both putting their education to work toward a similar goal: protecting the rights of girls and women in Africa.

Ms. Joseph, who is completing her PhD at the University of Montreal, volunteered with CUSO for one year.



Members of the Kangemi Women Empowerment Centre in Nairobi, Kenya, dance and sing to express to municipal officials the need to provide their community with garbage collection.

Photo ACD/CIDA: Pierre St. Jacques



A bakery owner in Accra, Ghana, trains nine girls between the ages of 15 and 22 in how to run a bakery business. This project is part of the Pilot Urban Poverty Partnership Program designed to help improve the living standards of the urban poor, particularly women, through skills development and training.



Women participate in an AIDS information session run by the Southern Africa AIDS Training Program and the Canadian Public Health Association, with the support of CIDA. Local volunteers are given AIDS information, and trained in home care skills and counselling.

She worked with the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa, a new position based in Iogo. It was set up by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, an arm of the Organization of African Unity (as of July 2002 called the African Union). Ms. Joseph is drawing on her experience to help complete her doctorate.

"There was a lot of travelling, and it was very tiring, but it was one of the best experiences of my life," she says. "I have absolutely no regrets."

One of her most vivid experiences occurred during a human rights conference in Nigeria. For three days, she listened to the testimony of widows who had lost everything when their husbands died.

"Most of these women were accused of killing their husbands," she says. "Many were imprisoned. A woman's in-laws could take the car, the house and the children."

A new protocol to protect women's rights in Africa may be on the table at the African Union's July 2002 meetings, and Ms. Joseph is hopeful that it will finally be endorsed. "It will fill a judicial void," she says. "Once it's approved, a process needs to happen to make women more aware of their rights. I think it's already happening.

The new generation of African women is starting to speak up."

Hélène Dion, who recently retired as a social work professor, spent about a month in Senegal on behalf of the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO). She helped a local NGO called DEVSOL prepare an organizational profile, a document that will improve its chances of attracting international support.

About a year ago, DEVSOL began a program to combat the exploitation of young girls aged 10 to 15 who abandon their education in the villages to work as domestics in the cities. The pay is low, and in some cases girls work 18 hours a day. Moreover, employers often sexually abuse the girls.

"It's a terrible dilemma for poor families," says Ms. Dion. "On the one hand, they need the money. On the other, they know the risks, especially the mothers who may have gone through the same experience."

DEVSOL is developing income-generating projects in four villages that aim to break this cycle of exploitation. Ultimately, if families can increase their income, girls can stay in school.

In July 2002, Hélène Dion will return to Senegal for the next phase of work with DEVSOL. This time she'll focus on training in community organization. "It's threatening to become a second career!" she says.

Putting an end to conflict diamonds

In 1997, a group of Canadians and Sierra Leoneans living in Canada decided to do something about the illicit trade in rough diamonds that was fuelling a deadly war in Sierra Leone.

Within a year, the working group had found a home within Partnership



Diamond miners in central Sierra Leone. The diamond trade fuelled a horrific decade-long civil war in Sierra Leone in which tens of thousands of innocent civilians were killed or maimed. Diamonds have also driven civil conflicts in Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia. The May 2002 free election in Sierra Leone is hopefully the first step toward a democratic future.

Africa Canada (PAC), a coalition of Canadian and African NGOs. In 2000, with financial support from DFAIT, CIDA and a host of NGOs, PAC produced a groundbreaking report called *The Heart of the Matter: Sierra Leone, Diamonds and Human Security* that probed the issue of conflict diamonds in Sierra Leone. The report, co-authored by two Canadians and a Sierra Leonean journalist studying in Canada, made international headlines.

"The impact of the report has been quite amazing," says Ian Smillie, one of the authors.

PAC's report gave added impetus to Canada's efforts at the United Nations (UN) to address the conflicts in Angola and Sierra Leone. As chair of the Angola Sanctions Committee, Robert Fowler—at that time Canada's Ambassador to the UN—set up an expert panel to look at conflict diamonds in Angola. Several other expert panels followed that examined the issue in Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia.

"When Canada was on the Security Council in 1999–2000, it was instrumental in getting the issue of conflict diamonds raised at official levels," says Mr. Smillie, who sat on the Sierra Leone expert panel. "The NGOs had done it in the media, but the issue wouldn't have got the profile in the UN it did without Canada."

In May 2000, South Africa launched what would become known as the Kimberley Process—an attempt to develop an international certification scheme for rough diamonds. By the end of the year, Canada had co-sponsored a resolution at the UN General Assembly supporting the Process.

The Kimberley Process, which involved governments, NGOs and the diamond industry, culminated in a meeting held in Ottawa in March 2002.

"The agreement in itself was remarkable," says Mr. Smillie. "However, we didn't get independent monitoring of all national systems. Without that, the whole thing is in jeopardy of not working." In response,



Armed soldier with AK-47

NGOs are exploring a voluntary scheme that could encourage countries to open their doors to independent monitors.

Meanwhile, with support from DFAIT and other agencies and foundations, PAC continues its research and advocacy with partners in Belgium, Sierra Leone and the United Kingdom. Its efforts have not gone unnoticed. In March 2002, PAC and its British partner, Global Witness, were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for their work around the Kimberley Process.

Healing the scars of genocide

By the mid-1990s, Richard Batsinduka had been living in exile from his native Rwanda for more than 20 years. He had completed high school and university in Burundi, worked in Swaziland, and by 1992 was employed in Ottawa as a French teacher. When the 1994



The UN High Commissioner for Refugees and international aid agencies supplied trucks to assist in the return of refugees to Rwanda in 1996 following the 1994 genocide.

genocide took the lives of between 800,000 and 1 million Rwandans, Mr. Batsinduka lost his parents, two brothers, a sister and some 500 members of his extended family.

"I was not able to teach any more because what happened profoundly affected me," he says.

By 1996, he was enrolled at the Canadian Institute for Conflict Resolution (CICR), a non-profit organization based in Ottawa that offers community-based conflict resolution programs. During his one-year residency, Mr. Batsinduka saw how the principles of resolving deep-rooted conflict could benefit his homeland. With support from the Institute, he wrote a proposal for a pilot project that was ultimately funded by CIDA.

In 1997, Mr. Batsinduka returned to Rwanda for the first time in 24 years. "It was really hard to start the work, but the Canadian embassy gave me a lot of support. The key issue was to bring victims and perpetrators

together in a safe environment to do the training."

The sessions went so well that CIDA funded an 18-month follow-up project. This involved "training the trainer" sessions in Ottawa for eight of the 350 Rwandans who had taken the course.

When one of the eight trainees returned to Rwanda, she trained a group of women who had been widowed by the genocide. The training had a profound impact on them. By the end of the five-day session, the women had decided to bring food to genocide suspects as a peace offering.

"There were so many small movements like this, and they were all the right ones," says Mr. Batsinduka. In 1999, he had his own epiphany. He decided to meet with the alleged killer of his brother and sister-in-law in a Rwandan prison.

"I talked with him for about half an hour," he says. "Something happened inside of me. I forgave him."



The closing of the first conflict resolution training session for Rwandan participants in July 1997 at CICR in Ottawa. Participants are holding an Aboriginal "dream catcher."

To learn more about Canada's policies and initiatives for helping developing countries become less marginalized, go to www.dfaid-maeci.gc.ca and click on "Foreign Policy," then "Global Issues, Peace and Security" or "International Development." You can also visit the CIDA Web site: www.acdi-cida.gc.ca



Ryan watches the drilling of the first "Ryan's Well" in Uganda. He has helped to contribute funds for wells in Ethiopia, Malawi and Zimbabwe, and is working with Canadian Olympic gold medal wrestler, Daniel Igali, to build a well and school in Nigeria, Daniel's birthplace.



Jimmy Akana and Ryan Hreljac at the first "Ryan's Well" in Uganda in July 2000



Inspiring children to make a difference

From its humble beginnings in 1990, a global education project run by the Canadian Organization for Development through Education (CODE) has grown to involve about 400 primary school classes across Canada.

Every Valentine's Day, as part of Project Love, young students prepare thousands of packages of school supplies that are shipped to students in Africa and the Caribbean.

"There are so many ways to integrate Project Love into the curriculum," says Judith George-Landles, a teacher at Churchill Alternative School in Ottawa who has been involved in the project for close to a decade. In her classes, students learn about the nature of community, food, music and how climate affects our choice of housing. One year, they learned about landmines and she integrated the lesson into a schoolyard game.

While children typically depend on parents and teachers to tell them about global issues, sometimes the tables get turned.

In 1998, six-year-old Ryan Hreljac learned at his school in Kemptville, Ontario, that people in Africa did not

have easy access to clean water. He begged his parents for \$75, the amount he thought was needed to drill a well. To humour him, his parents gave him extra chores to earn the money.

When Ryan brought his \$75 to WaterCan, a Canadian NGO that builds wells in developing countries, he discovered he really needed \$2,000. Undeterred, he kept going. Two years later, the well was built, and he travelled to Uganda to see it, an odyssey captured in a documentary film called *Ryan's Well*, which premiered on Vision TV in November 2001.

Meanwhile, word of Ryan's work quickly spread. Cheques addressed to "Ryan's Well" began to arrive.

There was a cover story in *Reader's Digest*, an appearance on the Oprah Winfrey show and countless presentations to schools and community groups. He's met Dr. Jane Goodall, Prime Minister Chrétien, the Prince

of Wales, and in the fall of 2002 Governor General Adrienne Clarkson will present him with a Meritorious Service Decoration (Civil Division).

Today, Ryan's Well Foundation accepts donations from all over the world, which it channels to WaterCan and Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR). By May 2002, the Foundation—with matching contributions from CIDA—had raised about \$500,000 for new wells in Africa. It has also received funding from DEAFIT.

The family tries hard to carve out time for Ryan to be a 10-year-old. He figures he spends about a quarter of his time on Foundation work. "The rest of the time I'm just a kid going to school," he says. Ryan's message is not simply about the need for clean water. Rather, it's that everyone—no matter how young—can make a difference in the world. 🍁

Children carry water for the family from the village well. In Africa, women and children often walk 4–5 km to get water

A World / ACIDI/IDA Stephanie Colvey



AFRICAN-CANADIAN SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

One of the first things you notice upon entering the Compagnie Danse Nyata Nyata studio on rue Saint-Laurent in Montreal is a picture of Nelson Mandela surrounded by dignitaries, hugging a small, beaming woman. The woman is Zab Maboungou, founder and artistic director of Nyata Nyata, and the picture is a cherished reminder of her performance of *Hommage*, a piece she choreographed to help Canada honour Mandela during his historic visit in 1990.

Zab Maboungou has the distinction of being the first African choreographer to receive funding from the Canada Council for the Arts and the Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec. While continuing to study the traditional dances and music of Africa, Ms. Maboungou has developed a unique and contemporary approach. Based on a philosophy that seeks to explore the source of movement, to identify its generic structures and, from that knowledge, to create, Zab Maboungou's art and ideas are sought after throughout Canada, the United States and Africa.

Zab Maboungou is one of the many talented African artists who have come to Canada in search of a new life and made outstanding contributions to Canadian culture. In Vancouver, the Masabo Culture Company is another example. Led by Fana Soro, a balafon master from Côte d'Ivoire, the Masabo Culture Company is a multidisciplinary

ensemble that features top-notch artists from Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Nigeria. The result is a feast of traditional song, story, dance, acrobatics and music that brings thousands of years of African history to Canadian stages.



The Masabo Culture Company, Vancouver, British Columbia

Just as Nyata Nyata and the Masabo Culture Company are signs of a thriving community of African-Canadian performing artists, so Vues d'Afrique attests to a burgeoning African film industry. Held each April in Montreal (2002 marked its 18th year), Vues d'Afrique, which is officially a festival

of African and Creole cinema, is an ever-growing festival of films from Africa and the diaspora—the only one of its kind in North America.

But Vues d'Afrique is more than a film festival. Its programs touch on all aspects of African culture.

Within the scope of the upcoming G8 Summit, for example, the Vues d'Afrique team made the most of the unique gathering of African writers, filmmakers and journalists in attendance from around the world. Through meetings and informal networking, organizers galvanized the African intelligentsia and coordinated concrete, proactive proposals to offer to G8 leaders.

The film festival itself provides a wealth of engaging and provocative perspectives on Africa, both cultural and political. Over 80 films were screened this year, and the work of some of Canada's brightest lights was showcased, including Vincent Glès's *Le Bûcheron de Zietrou* and



Koa Padolsky's *Alpha Yaya Diallo*—*le meilleur des deux mondes*.

As for African music on the Canadian scene, there is no shortage of talent or variety there either. Lilison Di Kinara, the Montreal-based singer, instrumentalist and painter, comes from Guinea-Bissau. His first CD, *Bambatulu*, released in 1999, is a mix of delicate rhythms and discrete acoustic guitar patterns underscoring a soft, soothing, sometimes plaintive voice. His is an originality that comes not from an exhaustive, and all-too-often exhausting, search for novelty, but from the simple and courageous act of being himself.

On a different note, Seydou Zon is a griot of the Marka people of Burkina Faso. "Griot" is the word used in West Africa for the carriers of the history and culture of a people.

Mr. Zon's vehicles of expression are songs, dances and music, and he is passing his knowledge on—both to his children and to the general public—through his group, Allakomi, which is made up of Zon and his seven children.

In a totally different key is Takadja, winner of the 1996 Juno for Best Global Recording. Their music is a blend of African and French-Canadian culture. Three members, including the founder and the principal kora player, are French Canadian. According to Ugandan-Canadian music critic Opiyo Oloya, writing in *AfroDisc* in May 1996, they should not, however, be mistaken for amateurs. While they don't possess any African heritage in their background, Mr. Oloya recognizes them as "serious students of African music that have gone beyond the mere mastery of techniques [to] embody the very spirit of griot music as it exists in West Africa today."

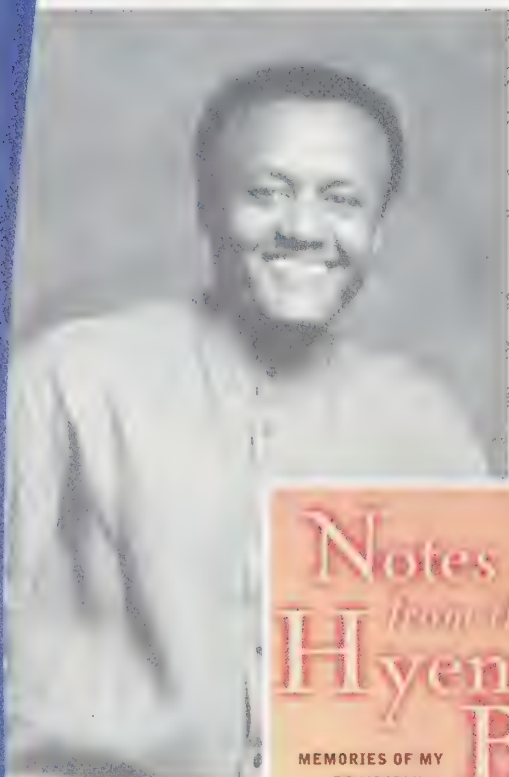
Takadja, Montreal, Quebec



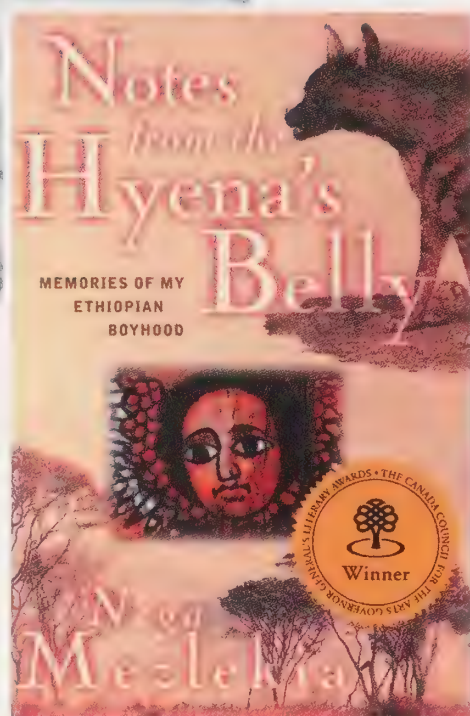
Zab Maboungou, founder and artistic director of Nyata Nyata, a Montreal dance group

The diversity of talent evident among musicians is also found among African-Canadian writers. In all genres, and in both official languages, African-Canadian writers are making





Ethiopian-Canadian writer Nega Mezlekia, winner of the 2000 Governor General's Literary Award for Non-fiction



their mark while educating, entertaining, inspiring and enlightening Canadians with new perspectives.

Nega Mezlekia was the recipient of the 2000 Governor General's Literary Award for Non-fiction. His memoir, *Notes from the Hyena's Belly*—an elegant mix of the political and the cultural—is a bittersweet account of his youth in Ethiopia, setting the innocence of childhood against a backdrop of

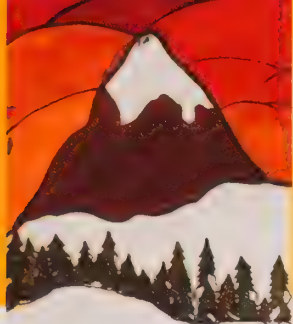
turmoil and horror.

Mr. Mezlekia came to Canada as a refugee in 1985 and completed two university degrees before turning his efforts to writing. In 1995, he received an Explorations grant from the Canada Council for the Arts—

a good investment, given the result, for *Notes from the Hyena's Belly* is a hauntingly beautiful book that has touched many hearts and minds the world over.

Originally from Burkina Faso, Angèle Bassolé Ouédraogo is an up-and-coming French-language poet, journalist and academic. Her first book of poetry, *Burkina Blues*, was published in 2000 with a foreword by notable writer and journalist Abdourahman Waberi. Her next book, *Du silence à la parole : Poètes africaines francophones*, is a study of Franco-African women poets and is due for publication this year.

Tololwa M. Mollel is a Tanzanian-born storyteller and dramatist, and the author of over 15 children's books. His style combines a unique and engaging synthesis of the stories of his homeland with an academic knowledge of African drama to create stories that can be appreciated by children (and the not so young) from any cultural background. Mr. Mollel's books have received numerous awards and honours, including the Governor General's Award for *The Orphan Boy* (1991), the Writers Guild of Alberta Award for Children's Literature for *Big Boy* (1995) and the American Booksellers Association Pick of the Lists for *The Flying Tortoise* (1995). More recently, Mr. Mollel received the African Studies Association 2000 Children's Africana Award for *My Rows and Piles of Coins* (2000). His books have been published in Australia, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as in Canada. ♣



Daring to Be

One highlight of the community events happening concurrently with the G8 Summit will be the performance by the DAREarts Children's Choir in Calgary.

Since its inception in 1996, the DAREarts Foundation has run a student outreach program to provide children from all cultural backgrounds with opportunities for self-expression. Through a mentor system that includes professional artists from virtually every discipline, DAREarts shows children the value of self-discipline and leadership. The program offers them the chance to express themselves through music, drama, dance, visual arts and literature.

As the North American affiliate of Centipede Children for Peace, DAREarts had children performing with the international Centipede Children's Choir at the 100th Anniversary Nobel Peace Prize Concert in Oslo in 2001. Conducted by DAREarts founder Marilyn Field, the choir sang with musical celebrities from around the world, joining Sir Paul McCartney for the finale, "Let It Be."

Now the DAREarts Children's Choir is busy rehearsing for its performance in Calgary on June 25, as well as for a show at the NATO summit in Prague in October. All funds raised will go to the Centipede Children's Fund to help build classrooms in Africa and Afghanistan.

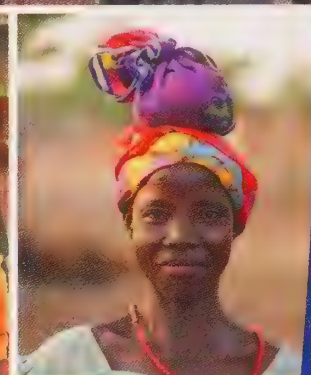
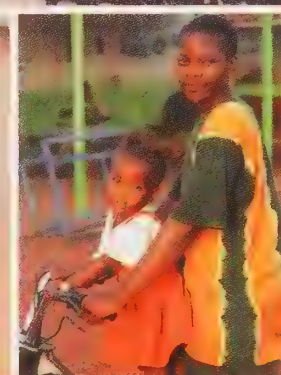
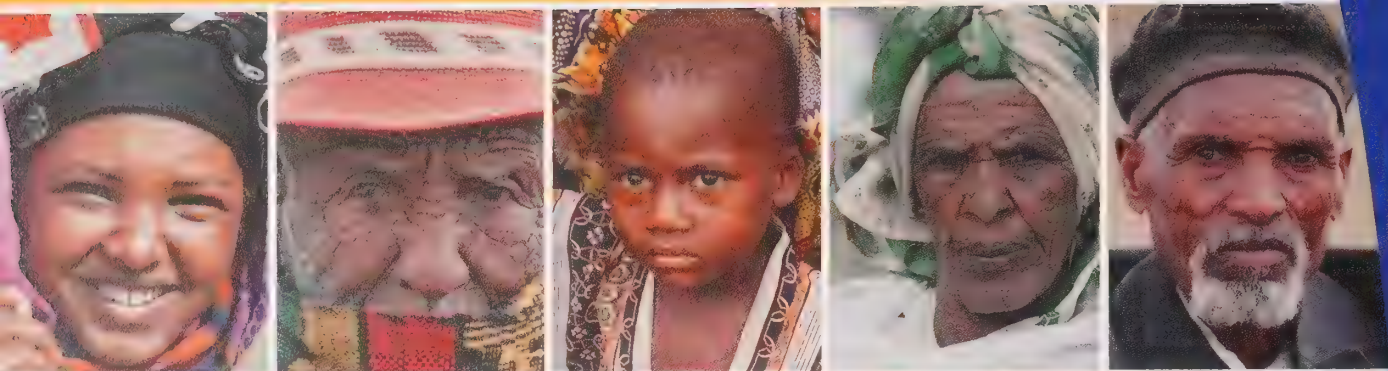
DAREarts has received funding for the Calgary concert from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), and is being encouraged by DFAIT to focus its fundraising projects on Africa this year. ♣



Members of DAREarts perform with the international Centipede Children's Choir at the 100th Anniversary Nobel Peace Prize Concert in Oslo in December 2001.



The African drumming and dance group Sankofa perform at the second Children for Peace Concert at the Toronto Centre for the Arts in November 2001.



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Canada World View

ISSUE 17 • AUTUMN 2002

Backpacks to briefcases

Youth representing
Canada abroad

Canada at the
Johannesburg and
Francophonie summits



Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
et du Commerce international

Canada

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Our cover

Young Canadian backpackers in front of the Colosseum in Rome, Italy. The various youth programs that the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade helps implement have facilitated some 36,000 exchanges worldwide, with equal numbers of Canadian interns travelling abroad and foreign interns coming to Canada.

Photo: Associated Press

OVERVIEW

It's a familiar and welcome sight around the globe: a backpack emblazoned with the Maple Leaf flag. Chances are that carrying it is one of the thousands of young Canadians who every year set off to explore the world by working abroad. And helping them is a range of programs implemented by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, along with other federal government departments and agencies. This issue of *Canada World View* highlights those programs and introduces a few of the participants. It also reports on the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from August 26 to September 4. There Canadian youth had a significant presence, and their actions are making a real difference.

The Canadian presence was strong at the October 18-20 Francophonie Summit in Beirut, Lebanon. This year the focus was on cultural diversity—a key feature of our country's identity, and a topic on which Canada was able to contribute much to the Summit discussion. We examine the context of the Summit and profile the long-standing connection between Lebanon and Canada. This dates back to the late 19th century, when the first Lebanese immigrants crossed the ocean to begin new lives here. Since then, successive waves of immigration from Lebanon have enhanced Canadian society and added to its diversity.

Diversity in the arts is celebrated at Mexico's Cervantino Festival, from October 9 to 27, where Canada is the country of honour. Performing are well-known artists representing a broad spectrum of talent from across Canada. As much as the backpackers, they demonstrate the vibrancy of our country—a society open to the world. ★

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CALENDAR

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

OCTOBER

October 7

Canada–European Union (EU)
Ministerial Meeting
Copenhagen, Denmark

October 7

Canada Export Awards
Vancouver, British Columbia

October 9–10

Arctic Council Meeting
Inari, Finland

October 13–16

Global Conference of
Parliamentarians Against Corruption
Ottawa, Ontario

October 18–20

Francophonie Summit
Beirut, Lebanon

October 23–24

Asia-Pacific Economic
Cooperation forum (APEC)
Joint Ministerial Meeting
Los Cabos, Mexico

October 26–27

APEC Summit
Los Cabos, Mexico

October 31–November 1

Free Trade Area of the Americas
(FTAA) Ministerial Meeting
Quito, Ecuador

NOVEMBER

November 14–15

World Trade Organization (WTO)
Ministerial Meeting
Sydney, Australia

November 15–26

International Trade Minister
Pierre Pettigrew leads trade mission to
Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa

November 21–22

North Atlantic Treaty Organization
(NATO) Summit
Prague, Czech Republic

DECEMBER

December 6–7

Organization for Security and
Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
Ministerial Meeting
Porto, Portugal

December 19

Canada–EU Summit
Ottawa, Ontario

CULTURE AND CANADIAN STUDIES

OCTOBER

October 9–14

Frankfurt Book Fair
Frankfurt, Germany

October 10–20

Montreal International Festival
of New Cinema and New Media
Montreal, Quebec

October 17–21

Toronto International Art Fair
Toronto, Ontario

October 24–27

imagineNATIVE Media Arts Festival
Toronto, Ontario

NOVEMBER

November 28–30

Spanish Association for Canadian
Studies, International Conference
Salamanca, Spain

DECEMBER

December 5–8

Art Basel Miami Beach
Miami Beach, U.S.A.

JANUARY 2003

January 9–13

Indian Association for Canadian
Studies, 3rd Asia-Pacific
Conference on Canadian Studies
Mysore, India

FEBRUARY

February 14–16

Association for Canadian Studies
in German-Speaking Countries,
Annual Conference
Grainau, Germany

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAYS

OCTOBER

October 17

International Day for the
Eradication of Poverty

October 24

United Nations Day

NOVEMBER

November 16

International Day for Tolerance

November 20

Universal Children's Day

November 25

International Day for the
Elimination of Violence
against Women

DECEMBER

December 1

World AIDS Day

December 3

International Day of
Disabled Persons

December 10

Human Rights Day

BACKPACKS TO BRIEFCASES

Canada's international youth programs help young people travel and work toward their career goals

The following article was prepared by Joel Kom, a 2002 summer student with the Communications Bureau of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Annik Lussier laughs when asked to describe her typical day. "There's never a typical day at work," she says; some days she spends as much as 16 hours at the office.

Since October 2001, the 26-year-old journalism graduate from Ottawa has been a reporter at the *Cairo Times*, one of Egypt's most prominent and independent English-language newspapers. Annik was placed there by the National Council on Canada-Arab Relations (see p. 15), one of the many implementing organizations of the Youth International Internship Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). Despite the unpredictable nature of her work, she loves it.

"The things that I'm learning here equal any master's degree," she says. "It's been a tremendous learning experience."

Annik still vividly remembers her first day in Cairo. Her senses were overwhelmed by the cacophony, the pungent smells, the traffic and crowds of a city that swells unofficially to a population of 16.5 million in the day, when workers flood in from surrounding villages. "It's chaos," she says, "but it's organized chaos."

The past year has opened her eyes to some of the wonders of the world. Cairo is a series of contradictions: one moment you are enveloped by dust in the bustling and heavily polluted city, and the next moment you can be staring in awe at monuments dating from 2000 B.C.

Seeing the Pyramids has given her "such respect for history," Annik says.

She writes at least two stories each week for the *Times*, whose mostly foreign staff includes Americans, Britons, Canadians, Egyptian-Americans and one Egyptian. She often covers international issues—for example, Egypt's response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. She also writes about important national issues—for instance, the difficulties faced by human rights groups in Egypt. Exploring such topics gives her great satisfaction: When told by her editors that her article on human rights was being used by diplomats as a reference, Annik says, "I felt I had contributed to change somehow."

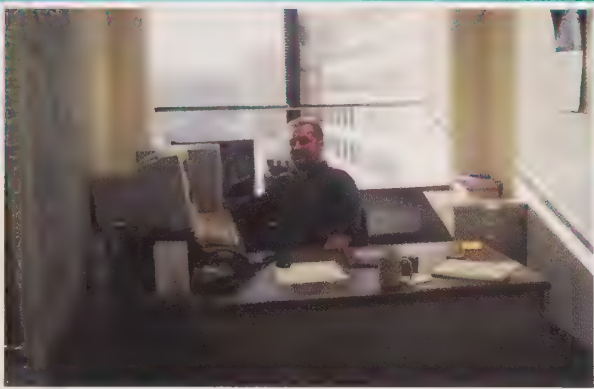
Annik's biggest challenge at work is trying to get information efficiently. Multiple telephone lines and voice mail have yet to come to Egypt, she says; more often than not interviews are conducted in person, and tea or juice must be served before you can get to the point. She found the ceremonious approach frustrating at first, but eventually she accepted that this is how things are done in Egypt and throughout the Arab world, where the traditional offering of hospitality is an integral part of the culture. This is one of the many reasons she has come to love the country.

Helping young Canadians contribute

The Internship Program is one of DFAIT's flagship youth programs. It gives unemployed or underemployed Canadians a first opportunity to gain career-related international work experience, with pay. Established in 1997 under the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy, the program supports projects developed in cooperation with private and non-governmental organizations. Every year it helps arrange 400 six-month internships.



DFAIT Youth International Internship Program intern Annik Lussier in front of the *Cairo Times* building in Cairo, Egypt



DFAIT Youth International Internship Program intern Philip Strong in the Washington, D.C., office of the American Council of the Blind

Each internship is designed to hone the skills and knowledge required to succeed in work with an international focus. It provides vital experience that can be turned into a career. Without this help, breaking into the international job market can be virtually impossible.

Internships are organized in each area of Canada's foreign policy: global issues; international trade; and culture and values. Projects listed under global issues promote priorities such as peace and human security, war-affected children, human rights, and democratic development. Trade interns learn about the promotion of international trade and sustainable development; they work with various trade councils, international organizations and the private sector. Many culture interns have been placed with film and television production companies, and have ended up finding full-time employment there. The internships carry out the government's commitment to helping young Canadians contribute to their country, gain employment, and apply their business and creative skills.

In 2001-02 Philip Strong, a 29-year-old from St. John's, Newfoundland, spent six months at the American Council of the Blind (ACB) in Washington, D.C. Visually impaired himself, Philip worked on developing accessible pedestrian signals. After his internship ended, he was asked to return and carry on the ACB project, which will be submitted to U.S. government officials. For blind and visually impaired pedestrians, the result could be better signals on street corners. For Philip, the result may be a full-time job at the ACB.

Philip encountered his own set of challenges, including repeated questions about his Newfoundland accent. "I was often asked what part of Ireland I was from," he says. Of course, nothing could have prepared him for what

happened during his first week on the job: Days after he arrived in Washington, the city was hit by the attacks of September 11, 2001. "We didn't know what to think. We were dumbstruck," he says, remembering that life ground to a halt. Philip contemplated returning home to safer territory, but eventually he decided to carry on with his work.

When asked to name the most enjoyable aspect of their internship, Philip and Annik both say it's the people. Philip met many warm and friendly Americans, including some co-workers who went out of their way to help him adjust to life in Washington and opened their homes to him. Annik has been fascinated by all the internationally minded people she has met in Cairo. For both, the experience broke stereotypes and opened doors to rewarding possibilities that they might never have discovered without the program.

D'Arcy Thorpe, Manager of the Youth International Internship Program, says, "This is a proven vehicle for engaging youth in international issues. International internships should be a key element of Canada's new Innovation Strategy. We are seeking input from the public, and it will be reviewed at the Innovation Summit to be held in Toronto in November, where DFAIT interns and partners will participate." The Summit will bring together representatives of business, universities and government with the aim of developing an action plan to make Canada a world leader in innovation by the year 2010.

The Youth Zone explores human security issues

Young Canadians have shown that they care about human security issues and want to be kept informed about them. Now they will be able to find the information they want on a Web page designed especially for them, within the Human Security site of DFAIT. The Youth Zone makes its debut this fall.

The Youth Zone is geared toward high school and university students. It will contain information on human security in general, and specifically on Canada's Human Security Program. It will also carry photos and stories from young people who have

practical experience in peacebuilding and human security. The Youth Zone is intended as a research tool for students, and will be a valuable resource for teachers who want to bring human security issues into

the classroom. Bookmark the Youth Zone Web address: www.humansecurity.gc.ca/jeunesse-e.asp



On-your-own programs

The Internship Program is only one of the ways that DFAIT helps youth expand their international horizons.

Take YouthPath to your goals

The Internet can be confusing and even intimidating. Is there a site where can you track down the specific information you need and be confident that what you have found is reliable? Canadian youth have such a place: YouthPath.

Launched in March 2002, YouthPath is a Web site designed by youth for youth. It covers all Government of Canada programs, services and information of interest to young people. Whether it's education, travel or employment, you can learn about it here.

Led by Human Resources Development Canada, YouthPath is the outcome of the work of about 400 young Canadians and 16 federal departments, including DFAIT. It is one of the government's biggest on-line initiatives.

With its youth-oriented format and layout, YouthPath is an example of the government's efforts to involve young people in government projects. It features a youth news team, reporting on stories relevant to young Canadians for posting on the site. It has sound, motion, animation, even a virtual host you can customize. Check it out at: <http://youthpath.ca>



The Department also negotiates international agreements that allow young Canadians to work overseas under four other arrangements: the Working Holiday Program; the Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP); the Young Workers' Exchange Program; and the Co-op Program. "We build the road for youngsters to go abroad," says Michel Gigault, head of the section responsible for the agreements. He calls the programs "Canada's best-kept secret" for youth, and estimates that they have facilitated some 36,000 exchanges worldwide, with equal numbers of Canadian interns travelling abroad and foreign interns coming to Canada. He adds, "Youth from other countries experience Canadian culture and values when they come here. Many of the participants who have gone on to play important roles in their own countries as diplomats or business leaders say that their experience in Canada translated into better relations as well as increased trade between our two countries."

The programs target youth between the ages of 18 and 30. The aim is to provide new skills in international employment, as well as exposure to foreign cultures. Participants apply for temporary permits to work abroad; implementing organizations often help them find a job.



Enfants d'ici ou d'ailleurs intern Véronique Côté at the school in Hammamet, Tunisia, where she taught cross-cultural training and issues related to La Francophonie, human security, civic duty and the environment

Three years ago, 22-year-old Dara Parker of Richmond Hill, Ontario, went to Ireland through SWAP, for which the Canadian Federation of Students is the implementing organization. She found a job in a hotel bar on Ireland's west coast, enabling her to experience Irish culture and tour the country. "Being somewhere new and meeting people from all over the world was the fun and encouraging part," she says; what she valued most was "gaining a new perspective into a different culture."

Since SWAP was established in 1975, agreements have allowed over 25,000 youth to travel and work abroad. The program currently sends 2,700 youth abroad annually. Participants choose their jobs by going to a country's partner organization and looking at what's available. Once they find something of interest, they attend an orientation session and are sent on their way. "It definitely inspired me to continue travelling and seek out other cultural experiences," says Dara; she has since visited Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and France. SWAP made things easier for her and gave her important contacts. She considers it a great program for anybody who's nervous about making a first trip or who wants a safety net.

Front-line foreign policy

Still other programs, often involving partner organizations, give youth a role in furthering Canada's foreign policy objectives. One such partner is Enfants d'ici ou d'ailleurs [Children from here or abroad]. This non-governmental organization focuses on human security in countries of La Francophonie. Each year it organizes one-year internships for 20 students aged 20 to 25 from the Université de Montréal and the Université du Québec à Montréal. Interns spend nine months studying human security issues with the program coordinators. Next they go to Quebec schools to gain teaching experience. They then

travel to an African country for five weeks to apply their skills and educate schools and communities on human security issues.

Véronique Côté was a human security intern in Tunisia in 2002. "The experience changed me," she says. "I was able to open up to another culture and exchange thoughts with people whose outlook was sometimes different from mine." Interns produced videos, organized meetings with local officials and, says Véronique, "taught children that rights exist to ensure that our needs are met."

Programs at home

For young people who prefer to stay in Canada, DFAIT offers other opportunities to get involved with key foreign policy issues. One is the Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program, delivered in cooperation with Mines Action Canada and the Canadian Red Cross; this unique program is designed to raise community awareness and involvement. Organizations across Canada act as hosts each year for the Youth Ambassadors, who teach about the deadly toll of landmines on innocent civilians and their communities. Their work helps Canada carry out its commitment to the global ban on landmines.

Since its inception in 1998, some 33 Youth Ambassadors have participated in the program. One of them was Darryl Toews of Morden, Manitoba, who worked with teachers and students throughout his province. "I saw my role as being a resource," he says, "and trying to motivate people to go beyond simply learning about the issue and instead doing something to help solve the problem."

During his 11 months as a Youth Ambassador in 1999–2000, Darryl organized presentations, fund-raisers and other activities. The aim was to raise awareness of the global landmine problem, and to inform the public about Canada's efforts to implement the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel mines. The response, he recalls, was often overwhelming: "I was very inspired so many times by what young people were doing here, and for me that was the best part."

Another extraordinary opportunity to get involved in policy making was the Winnipeg Conference on War Affected Children, held in September 2000 (see *Canada*

World View, Issues 9 and 10).

At this event youth sat at the decision-making table with adults, and once the conference ended they acted as advisers on other projects involving war-affected children.

Under its International Criminal Court Campaign, DFAIT also helped War Child Canada organize a youth forum on international criminal justice in Ottawa from March 1 to 3, 2002. Fifty high school and university students from across the country attended the conference to learn more about international justice and the Court.

An opportunity to be seized

To youth who are considering any of the Department's youth initiatives, Philip Strong advises, "Don't let an opportunity such as the internship program pass you by."

"It will be an amazing year," says Darryl Toews of the landmine action program. What is particularly rewarding, he finds, is getting to see the results of your work.

Annik Lussier knows that participants may well encounter frustrations and some trying times in the DFAIT youth programs. But much more important, she says, "In the end you will be enriched by the experience." 🍁



Darryl Toews and fellow Youth Mine Action Ambassador Carla Potts observe demining in a cleared neighbourhood of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, April 2000.

For more information about DFAIT programs for youth, visit:

Youth International Internship Program:
www.dfait-mndc.gc.ca/Intern

International Youth Programs:
www.dfait-mndc.gc.ca/ITYP

THE JOHANNESBURG SUMMIT

A success for sustainable development— and for young Canadians

When Justin Friesen entered Grade 6 this September in Halifax, Nova Scotia, he had quite a story to tell about his summer.

Last May, at the International Children's Conference on the Environment in Victoria, British Columbia, Justin was one of two delegates selected to attend the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa. He arrived in Johannesburg in late August with a long "to do" list that included addressing world leaders, meeting with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and learning more about the nature of poverty in a developing country.

"I just couldn't speak when we drove by some of the houses in Soweto," says Justin. "It looked like you couldn't even lie down. I've never seen anything like it. It's good that I saw it."

A follow-up to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, the Johannesburg Summit ran from August 26 to September 4. On hand were tens of thousands of participants: heads of state and government, national delegates, and leaders from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the media, business and other major groups. Their

mission: to re-energize the global commitment to sustainable development by integrating environmental, economic and social priorities. Canada believes that sustainable development can come about only through effective partnerships between government, the private sector, NGOs, local communities and others—including youth.

A youth perspective

The UN International Youth Day on August 12 spurred the world's young people to bring their concerns to Johannesburg. From pre-teens in elementary school to young adults working for social change, they made their voices heard loud and clear.

One of them was 11-year-old Ryan Hreljac of Kemptville, Ontario—founder of Ryan's Well Foundation, which contributes funds to help build wells in Africa (see *Canada World View*, Issue 16, p. 19). Ryan travels the world promoting the fundamental right of access to clean water. At the Summit he met with Prime Minister Chrétien and Prince Willem Alexander of the Netherlands. He also delivered a speech along with International Cooperation Minister Susan Whelan.

Ryan took part in a panel session sponsored by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the topic "Water, Poverty and Children." He was one of nine speakers at the event. Among the others: Nane Annan, wife of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan; Swedish Environment Minister Lena Sonmestad; Dr. David Nabarro, Executive Director of Sustainable Development at the World Health Organization; and UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Kul Gautam.

Perhaps what most impressed Ryan at the Summit was a tour of water projects in the squatter and refugee camps outside Johannesburg. He says, "We were able to speak with local people and actually see what their lives were



Youth delegates Justin Friesen and Ryan Hreljac with Environment Minister David Anderson, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Mrs. Aline Chrétien at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg



International Cooperation Minister Susan Whelan tours the exhibit hall at the World Summit on Sustainable Development with Ryan Hreljac and representatives of Brazil.

like in these camps made up of tin shacks with no running water or electricity. It put this summit of world leaders in perspective for me.”

Youth interns at the Summit

Participating in the Summit in diverse roles were about 25 current and former interns from international youth programs sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Canadian International Development Agency, and Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) (see “Backpacks to briefcases,” p. 4). Alyson Slater interned for six months with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development in Geneva; she now works for the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)—an Amsterdam-based international NGO that encourages corporations to report on their environmental and social performance.

“The GRI stays as neutral as possible,” she says. “We bring companies together with government, labour and NGOs so they can find out exactly what their stakeholders want to know.”

A five-year consultation process culminated at the Johannesburg Summit with the release of the GRI’s 2002 *Sustainability Reporting Guidelines*. These feature 60 precise indicators for gathering and reporting information on everything from child labour practices to industrial effluent.

In the free time from her Summit duties with GRI, Alyson joined with another former intern, Dagmar Timmer, to organize a reception celebrating Canada’s internship programs. The event drew 25 interns, plus representatives of 20 host organizations from all over the world as well as the International Institute for Sustainable Development, a

Winnipeg-based partner of the internship programs. All told, about 60 people attended—including International Cooperation Minister Susan Whelan, who addressed the reception.

“We are going to continue to invest in young people, and to develop new approaches to innovation, learning and achieving excellence,” said Minister Whelan. “We remain committed to building advanced skills through career-related work experiences, and to helping youth continue advanced studies.”

“These youth programs are so beneficial,” says Alyson, “not just for our personal and professional lives, but also for Canada. There are interns working for the United Nations, NGOs and even in corporations, trying to push for more attention to sustainable development. I really think we are ambassadors for Canada.”

Summit achievements: the official . . .

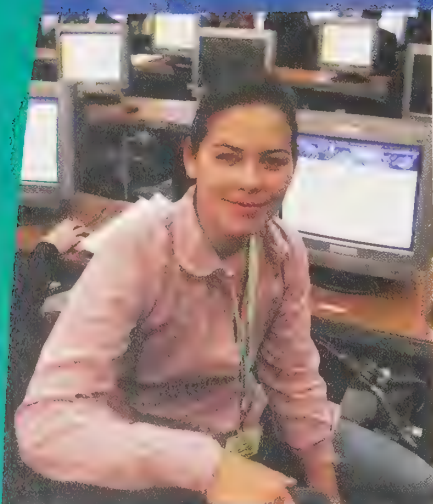
Canada was pleased with the success of the Summit. There were three major outcomes: a Political Declaration and a Plan of Implementation, plus non-negotiated partnerships for sustainable development. Canada’s stated priorities were all met.

The negotiated texts, for example, reflect Canada’s focus on good governance as a precondition for sustainable development. In fact, Canada has set aside \$6 billion in new and existing resources over five years to establish the preconditions for sustainable development in Africa;

this is in accordance with the commitment to a new partnership with Africa undertaken last June by G8 countries at their summit in Kananaskis, Alberta. Where appropriate, the Johannesburg Summit fixed realistic targets for achieving agreed priorities. It also recognized the importance of public-private partnerships.



Former youth intern Alyson Slater, now on the staff of the Global Reporting Initiative, at the Johannesburg Summit



Youth delegate Severn Cullis-Suzuki, daughter of environmentalist David Suzuki, at the Johannesburg Summit. Ten years ago at the Rio Summit in Brazil, Severn (then aged 12) received a standing ovation for her impassioned speech about the need to save the world for future generations.

The Summit endorsed, among other things, the Millennium Development Goals for eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development; these emerged from the 2000 UN Millennium Summit. In addition, Johannesburg set out new targets and actions in areas such as sanitation, the sound management of chemicals, and restoring and maintaining fish stocks. On the difficult issue of renewable energies it reached a compromise, with delegates

committing to increased use but not setting concrete goals or time lines. Finally, Canada successfully lobbied for the Plan of Implementation to give due attention to the issue of human rights and women's health.

However, one of the most significant steps for Canada was Prime Minister Chrétien's announcement that the government would put the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol to a vote in Parliament by the end of the year. He also pledged to expand Canada's national parks and marine conservation system—and took the first steps toward doing so in an announcement on October 3.

In his address to the Summit, the Prime Minister emphasized that wise environmental stewardship is a universal obligation reflecting a rising global awareness that clean air, clean water and safe food are universal needs.

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

— *Our Common Future: Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Report), 1987*

"The consensus here in Johannesburg will help us create a cleaner and healthier world for our children and for generations to come," said Mr. Chrétien. "Sustainable development is about the very destiny of our planet."

... and the unofficial

For many delegates, the lasting outcomes of the Summit will be the friendships, alliances and networks they formed.

"For African NGOs, it's such a wonderful opportunity to work with global NGOs and have access to new information resources," says Roxanne Breton, an HRDC intern who worked as South Africa liaison of Leadership for Environment and Development International, a worldwide network based in London, U.K. "The same goes for the global NGOs, who get a different kind of knowledge

about development from actually being here in Africa."

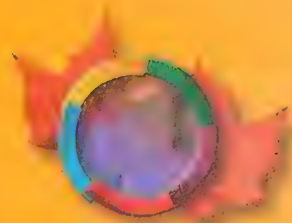
Justin Friesen learned plenty from his trip—enough for several essays. He kept a journal, which will appear on his Web site (www.justinvision.com). He also met with the official Canadian delegation to the Summit, and described his

own experiences at one of the daily delegation meetings.

Recalling his presentation to world leaders on issues ranging from climate change to clean water, Justin was optimistic. "I think they really understood this time—finally!" he says. 🍁

For more information on the Johannesburg Summit and Canada's role in sustainable development, visit: www.wssd.gc.ca

For more information on Ryan's Well Foundation, visit: www.ryanswell.ca



FROM KANANASKIS TO BEIRUT

Canada at the Francophonie Summit

This October 18 to 20 in Beirut, Lebanon, the ninth Francophonie Summit brought together the leaders of 55 states and governments representing 625 million people who use French as a common language. They discussed international issues relevant to Francophones all over the world, and promoted La Francophonie's vision of a diverse global society.

Since its first summit in Paris in 1986, the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie has become a key multilateral forum for political dialogue and exchange, and for mobilizing resources in support of cooperation in the French-speaking world.

La Francophonie sees open dialogue as the key to a global society where diverse identities can flourish to the benefit of all. With members representing a broad spectrum of nations and cultures from Europe, North and sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, North America, and the Caribbean, La Francophonie strives for open, pluralistic approaches to culture, and it actively promotes respect for minorities and tolerance. It champions a vision of a cohesive complementarity of cultures rather than one dominant culture.

A vision of cultural diversity

The theme for the Beirut Summit was "The Dialogue of Cultures." It was explored within a wide range of political and economic discussions. In addition, proposals were tabled on programs to open the lines of

communication between member states and beyond. Attending on behalf of Canada were Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage, and Denis Paradis, Secretary of State for Latin America, Africa and La Francophonie.

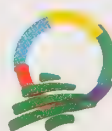
Prime Minister Chrétien said in a recently published article, "La Francophonie was the very first international organization to conduct an in-depth examination of the need for promoting cultural diversity. The Beirut Summit theme will enable heads of state and government to go still further in a dialogue on understanding, acceptance and reconciliation between different cultures; and this will help to avoid more tragedies like that of September 2001, which still is making its mark on us."

Adds Secretary of State Paradis, "The broad range of cultures that make up La Francophonie and the common use of the French language lead its members to work together both politically and economically, making La Francophonie a true model of cultural diversity. Canada's commitment to multiculturalism and



Photo: courtesy Embassy of Lebanon, Ottawa (Ministry of Tourism)

Overlooking the Mediterranean Sea—Beirut, the capital of Lebanon and site of the ninth Francophonie Summit



**IX^e SOMMET DE LA
FRANCOPHONIE**
Beyrouth 2002

our rich and dynamic French culture place us in an important and privileged position in this dialogue of cultures in La Francophonie, which enabled us to make a valuable contribution to the discussions at the Beirut Summit."

Canada's contribution

Canada's involvement in La Francophonie is one of the main thrusts of this country's foreign policy. Our participation reflects our country's linguistic duality and commitment to a unique, modern and diverse Francophone community within our borders. Our membership offers an



For more information on Canada in La Francophonie, visit:
www.dfoit-mmei.gc.ca/foreign_policy/francophonie

opportunity to build solidarity and forge special ties on a wide range of international issues: language and culture; politics and economics; and international cooperation and technology transfer.

In addition to ongoing contributions as a member, Canada has hosted two Francophonie Summits: in Quebec City in 1987; and in Moncton, New Brunswick, in 1999 (see *Canada World View*, Issue 5). The key theme of the Moncton Summit was youth: for the first time ever youth delegates were invited to participate alongside heads of state and government. And even before the Summit convened, young people took part in preparatory consultations, where they grappled with the issues that they faced in their own country and internationally.

Youth and La Francophonie

Two main documents emerged from the 1999 Summit: the Moncton Declaration and its resulting Action Plan. Both enshrined the importance of youth within La Francophonie. In fact, the first chapter of the Declaration is devoted exclusively to youth issues; and in it, leaders committed to making youth an integral part of their actions.

The Moncton Action Plan has four components: youth consultation and participation; integration into society and the workplace; youth mobility; and better access to new technology. The Plan particularly targets developing nations, which are strongly represented in La Francophonie.

The legacy of the Moncton Summit is that attention to youth issues is now institutionalized and explicit in all aspects of La Francophonie's activities.

Action for Africa

The Beirut Summit provides an opportunity to build upon other recent initiatives, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). This is of particular importance to La Francophonie, since African countries make up the majority of its membership. NEPAD is a pledge given by African leaders to their peoples to build durable peace and security, strengthen democracy and good governance, open trade and investment, address crises in health and education, and generally encourage people-oriented development.

Last June, in Kananaskis, Alberta, the G8 Summit adopted an Africa Action Plan to promote commitment to the principles contained in NEPAD (see "News briefs," p. 19). Canada was one of the main proponents of the Action Plan, which has equally strong support from the chair of the 2003 G8 Summit, France. Since both countries are members of the G8 as well as La Francophonie, they can help ensure the success of NEPAD and the Africa Action Plan, especially in the Francophone countries of Africa.

NEPAD represents a historic opportunity for Africa. Its aim is to bring real improvement in the quality of life of the people of that continent—and La Francophonie has a key role to play in ensuring that it does. ♣

JEAN PAUL LEMIEUX

A vision of Canada in Beirut

During the Francophonie Summit, art lovers in Beirut were able to explore the work of a renowned Quebec painter. *Jean Paul Lemieux: His Canada* is the title of an exhibition sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the National Archives of Canada, and the Canadian Postal Museum—Canadian Museum of Civilization. It features 12 paintings commissioned by Canada Post for a set of commemorative stamps issued to mark Canada Day 1984. The canvases depict scenes from each of Canada's 10 provinces plus the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. Lemieux created them over a period of several years, working primarily from memory and his inner store of images.

The stamps were unveiled and the paintings first displayed in Quebec City in June 1984, at the official residence of the Governor General of Canada. "Extraordinary!" said one of the viewers to Lemieux at the opening. "You really think so?" replied the painter. "It's only my vision of the country." Fourteen years later, in 1998, the Canadian Postal Museum—Canadian Museum of Civilization in the National Capital Region mounted the exhibition that now is being shown in Beirut.

Born in Quebec City in 1904, Jean Paul Lemieux started painting at an early age. He studied at Montreal's École des beaux-arts and later in France, spending time also in California. He began as mainly a

I am especially interested in conveying the solitude of man and the ever-flowing passage of time. I try to express this silence in which we all move.

—Jean Paul Lemieux

landscape painter but the best-known works of his maturity show sparse, flattened figures against austere backgrounds. His minimalist style clearly was edging toward abstractionism, but he never created totally abstract art.



Prince Edward Island (top) and Saskatchewan, two of the paintings by Jean Paul Lemieux commissioned by Canada Post in 1984 for a set of 12 commemorative stamps



photos: Canada Post Corporation

Before his death in 1990 he received numerous awards, including the Order of Canada, and he was posthumously made a Grand Chevalier of the Ordre du Québec. Today he remains one of Quebec's most-exhibited artists.

Running to October 30, the show is being held jointly with a larger exhibition of postage stamps from countries of La Francophonie. It marks the first time that this collection of Lemieux paintings has travelled overseas, and it is the very first exhibition in Beirut devoted to a Canadian painter. It was officially opened by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Lebanese Prime Minister Rafic Hariri. ♣

A PIECE OF CANADA'S CULTURAL MOSAIC

The Lebanese-Canadian community adds much to our vibrant Francophone culture

When Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage, and Denis Paradis, Secretary of State for Latin America, Africa and La Francophonie, attended the ninth Francophonie Summit in Beirut, Lebanon, they were visiting the birthplace of thousands of their fellow citizens.

The long-standing connection between Canada and Lebanon stretches back over 100 years to when the first Arabic-speaking immigrants arrived in Canada—along with immigrants from other parts of the world, particularly eastern, central and southern Europe. All helped contribute to the rich cultural diversity that defines Canada.

From small beginnings

The first four immigrants from Lebanon (then part of Syria) arrived in Montreal in 1882. These early immigrants usually made their living as peddlers: they sold their wares on streets in downtown Montreal or in rural communities near the Ontario towns of London and Stratford, or else they opened wholesale stores to resupply peddlers with merchandise.

Today many Lebanese-Canadians are university-educated, often speak both of Canada's official languages, and are professionals such as doctors, lawyers, engineers and professors. There are two Members of Parliament of Lebanese origin—Mark Assad (Gatineau) and Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre)—as well as Senator Pierre Debané and a former premier of Prince Edward Island, the late

Joe Ghiz. Lebanese-Canadians have also been active in the arts as writers (especially in French), painters and musicians. Currently on display at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec, is *The Lands Within Me*—the first-ever exhibition of Arab-Canadian artists; running until March 2003, it includes several artists of Lebanese origin.

One of the most famous of the early Lebanese immigrants was a woman, Annie Midlige, who grew up in the mountains around Beirut and came to Ottawa in 1895. From her base in Ottawa, this 40-something widow paddled a canoe all the way up the Gatineau River, accompanied by an Indian guide, to the remote interior of Quebec, establishing stores and trading furs along the way. So adept was Annie that she gave the Hudson's Bay Company (Canada's oldest trading company and now one of our largest department store chains) tough competition in the fur trading business.

By 1901 there were about 2,000 Syrian-Lebanese in Canada. Between 1911 and 1951 an immigration policy restricting "Asiatics," which included immigrants of Arab origin, reduced the steady influx of new immigrants

from Lebanon and Syria. But from the mid-1950s onward, the Lebanese have continued to be the largest group of Arabs in Canada.

In the mid-1970s, during the Lebanese civil war, Canada was the only country to adopt special immigration measures to assist Lebanese fleeing the conflict; it even set up an emergency visa office in Nicosia, Cyprus, in 1989. Since so many Lebanese already had family in Canada, it was easier for them to adjust to their new home here. In addition, the French influence in Lebanon, where Arabic and French are the official languages, made Montreal a natural choice for the majority of the newcomers.

The Lebanese and Montreal

Since the 1880s, Montreal has been a magnet for new Lebanese immigrants. The city has the largest Lebanese community in Canada, whose members have contributed greatly to Canada's vibrant Francophone culture. Like the Lebanese in Beirut, who pepper sentences with Arabic, French and English, the Lebanese-Canadians of Montreal move seamlessly between French and Arabic in one conversation.



photo: E. Aboud family private collection.
Courtesy Centre d'histoire de Montréal and the exhibition "Min Zamaan"—Since Long Ago: The Syrian-Lebanese Presence in Montreal.

Syrian-Lebanese immigrants Faris and Yusuf Aboud in their dry-goods shop, "E. Aboud," on the corner of Craig and Saint-Urbain Streets in Montreal, ca. 1912. The brothers opened their store in 1908.

The Centre d'histoire de Montréal is holding an exhibition called "Min Zamaan"—Since Long Ago: The Syrian-Lebanese Presence in Montreal Between 1882 and 1940. Running from October 10, 2002, to May 25, 2003, the exhibition is organized by Dr. Brian Aboud. For more information, visit: www2.ville.montreal.qc.ca/chm/engl/exptempa.shtml

Flourishing in a new home

Today, there are over 250,000 Lebanese in Canada. Besides Montreal, other major Lebanese communities are in Ontario, particularly in Ottawa (and across the Ottawa River in Gatineau, Quebec), Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor and London. There are large communities as well in Edmonton (Alberta) and Nova Scotia.

Like the first Syrian-Lebanese immigrants who were in business for themselves, the new influx of post-civil war Lebanese immigrants have set up restaurants in every major city in Canada, with Arabic and French or English signs advertising *shawarma* and *felafl* sandwiches.

In many cases the first wave of immigrants never returned to their homeland. In contrast, subsequent generations have maintained strong ties with Lebanon: they send substantial remittances to family, raise funds for charity and return frequently on vacation. Satellite and digital cable television and inexpensive phone cards have made it possible for most

Lebanese immigrants to keep in regular contact with Lebanon in a way that was impossible for the early newcomers. There are economic ties too, with billboard signs in Beirut advertising merchandise "made in Canada" and shops carrying clothes "made in Montreal."

Lebanese immigrants have created strong community links within Canada as well. There are numerous Arabic-language newspapers published across Canada, including several in Montreal with articles written in both French and Arabic. The first Syrian-Greek Orthodox church in Canada was built in Montreal in 1910, and the first mosque in Canada, al-Rashid, was built by Lebanese immigrants in Edmonton in 1938.

The National Council on Canada-Arab Relations is a network founded in 1985 with input from Montreal's Lebanese community. Based in Ottawa, the Council works with government, the private sector and community organizations to promote awareness of the Arab world and of

the expanding commercial, scientific, educational and cultural connections between Canadian and Arab institutions.

In area, Lebanon is only a little over the size of Edmonton. Its population (as of 2001) is 3.6 million, but many more Lebanese live outside their homeland, on every continent, than within its borders. Canada is among the many countries around the world where Lebanese immigrants have forged a new life for themselves. In doing so they have enhanced our cultural mosaic and added to the vitality of our Francophone community. 🍀

(See box, p. 19)

This article is based on research by: Dr. Brian Aboud ("A Truer Reflection: Canadians of Arab Origin: Concerns and Contributions," in *Canadian Labour Congress Anti-Racism and Human Rights Bulletin*, Issue 3, December 10, 2001); Dr. Baha Abu-Laban ("The Lebanese in Montreal," in *The Lebanese in the World* 1992); Mrs. Jessie Amery, London, Ontario; Dr. Sarah Gualtieri, Loyola University, New Orleans, U.S.A.; and Peter Leney ("Annie Midlige, Fur Trader," in *The Beaver*, June/July 1996)

CANADA HONOURED AT THE 2002 CERVANTINO FESTIVAL



A member of Montreal troupe Les gens d'R in performance

Canada is in the spotlight this October as the city of Guanajuato, in central Mexico, hosts the 30th annual Cervantino Festival. This is one of Latin America's leading multidisciplinary festivals of the arts. It has an ideal setting in Guanajuato: a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the city was founded in 1546 and boasts superb architecture. In the 30-year history of the festival, this is only the second time that the focus is on the artists and cultural work of one specific country.

The Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) has worked closely with the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City to ensure that Canada's best—representing a wide range of talent from across the country—is on display at this year's festival. Division Director Curtis Barlow says, "The festival offers a prestigious world stage in a priority region. This is a golden opportunity to promote a positive image of Canada as culturally diverse, creative, innovative and modern."

Many Canadian artists and cultural groups are appearing at the 2002 Cervantino Festival. Among them:

- Grand Dérangement is a lively Nova Scotia-based group of Acadian musicians and dancers. Its sound is a fusion of styles that sets the stage reverberating and makes listeners feel like joining in.
- Also from Nova Scotia, Mermaid Theatre is presenting *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Very Quiet Cricket*, by Eric Carle. Both of them favourites of young audiences, the performances take



Grand Dérangement, a group of Acadian musicians and dancers based in Nova Scotia



Emily Molnar in Ballet British Columbia's production of *The Faerie Queen*

The Cervantino Festival runs from October 9 to 29, 2002. For more information, contact ASAT's Arts and Cultural Initiatives Promotion Division, tel. (514) 944-5103, or visit the following Web pages:

Festival Internacional Cervantino (Spanish only)
www.festivalcervantino.gob.mx

Canadian Embassy, Mexico City - Calendar of Public Affairs Events
www.canada.org.mx/cultural/english/Cervantino.asp

spectators to a universe where insects have adventures and feel love. The productions feature puppetry that combines dialogue with sounds, colours and huge surprises. Last year Mermaid Theatre won a prestigious Canada Export Award in recognition of its international success. With its unique adaptations of children's literature, the company has introduced more than 2.5 million youngsters on four continents to the magic of live theatre.

- The Montreal-based theatre troupe Les Deux Mondes is presenting *Mémoire vive*—one of its many original stage productions that have won acclaim from international audiences.

- Les gens d'R was founded in Montreal in 1995 by André Simard, formerly of the Cirque du Soleil. Growing out of the art of circus acrobatics, the company's original work seeks to bring together dance, theatre and music.
- The Gryphon Trio of Toronto is considered one of Canada's best classical music ensembles, known for a vital, novel reading of the classics. Its members are Roman Borys (cello), Jamie Parker (piano) and Annalee Patipatanakoon (violin). Since 1993 the three have toured widely in Canada and abroad, winning kudos for their interpretations of Haydn, Mendelssohn, Dvorak and other composers.
- Ballet British Columbia is directed by internationally renowned choreographer John Alleyne. It is presenting *The Faerie Queen*, a full-length production based on Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with music of Henry Purcell. Exploring new dimensions of dance, this fantastic work examines the true nature of love.

In addition, on display at the Alhondiga Museum are two exhibitions of Inuit art: *Transitions*, from the collection of the Indian Art Centre of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; and *Culture on Cloth: Inuit Wall Hanging*, curated by Judith Varney Burch. 🍁

Toronto classical music ensemble the Gryphon Trio



THE NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF CANADA

Founded in 1960, the National Youth Orchestra of Canada prepares young Canadians for careers in professional orchestras. Its alumni make up approximately one third of Canada's professional orchestral musicians.

Every year, an average of 500 youth from across Canada apply for a position in the orchestra. Auditions are held across the country; for the 100 successful candidates, assistance is available to help them attend the intensive summer training session at



Participants in the summer session of the National Youth Orchestra at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario

Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. The young musicians then give a series of concerts on tour. This year they performed in Ontario, British Columbia and Japan.

In its 42 years, the orchestra has trained 2,200 of Canada's finest young musicians. Today it is renowned as one of the best youth orchestras in the world.

FOCUS ON CANADIAN FIRST NATIONS IN NEW YORK CITY

photo: courtesy Bethlehem Steel



Canadian First Nations are making news in New York City, thanks to a partnership between the Canadian Consulate General and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). Just closed at the Museum: *Booming Out: Mohawk Ironworkers Build New York*, an exhibit co-sponsored by the Consulate General, which ran for six months to mid-October. In addition, the Consulate General facilitated the visit last September of a delegation of Haida from British Columbia, who came to New York to repatriate

ancestral remains from the American Museum of Natural History. To mark the occasion, the Consulate General arranged for a public dance performance by the Haida at NMAI. Among upcoming events planned by this innovative partnership: on November 21, a panel on land claims and self-government, featuring Nisga'a Treaty negotiators Dr. Joseph Gosnell and Tom Molloy; and on January 30, 2003, a panel on Aboriginal humour featuring filmmaker Drew Hayden Taylor and Don Kelly.

Mohawk steelworker Joe Regis helps to build the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City, in the late 1960s. Many Mohawk helped erect Manhattan landmarks, including the World Trade Center towers. After the September 11 attacks they helped dismantle the ruins of the Twin Towers. This photograph appeared in the exhibition *Booming Out: Mohawk Ironworkers Build New York*.

G8 adopts Africa Action Plan

Africa topped the agenda of the G8 Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta, last June (see *Canada World View*, Issue 16). Joining Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and his fellow G8 leaders were the presidents of Algeria, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa, as well as United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan. In support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the Summit adopted an ambitious Africa Action Plan. This sets out an enhanced partnership between the G8 and African governments committed to implementing NEPAD, including its provisions regarding democracy, good governance and human rights.

Among the specific commitments under the Action Plan: to promote peace and security; to strengthen institutions and governance; to foster economic growth and sustainable development; to implement debt relief; to expand education and digital opportunities; to improve health and confront HIV/AIDS; to increase agricultural productivity; and to improve water resource management. Up to \$9.5 billion in new

funds for official development assistance will be made available to African countries annually by 2006, and the Summit agreed on a follow-up process to ensure that recipient countries implement NEPAD. African participants at the Summit welcomed the Action Plan, and Secretary-General Annan described it as a potential turning point in the history of Africa.

In addition, Prime Minister Chrétien announced a major package of Canadian initiatives supporting the Action Plan; these include allowing most imports from the least developed countries to enter Canada free of tariffs and quotas as of January 1, 2003.

Afghanistan ratifies the Ottawa Convention

On September 19, 2002, Afghanistan became the 126th state to complete ratification of the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel mines. For the first time this year, Afghanistan attended the annual Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from September 16 to 20.

The Ottawa Convention is officially known as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. The most rapidly ratified multilateral disarmament treaty in history, it was opened for signature in Ottawa in December 1997 and entered into force on March 1, 1999.

Some 737 square kilometres of Afghan territory is affected by mines, posing a clear danger for returning refugees and the local population.

Canada supported the launch of the United Nations' Mine Action Program for Afghanistan (MAPA) in 1990, and it provided more than \$12 million for demining and victim assistance between 1990 and 2001. Canada has recently stepped up its funding for mine action as part of the \$100 million

A Global Ban on Landmines



L'interdiction complète des mines terrestres

CANADA-LEBANON TIES

(from p. 15)

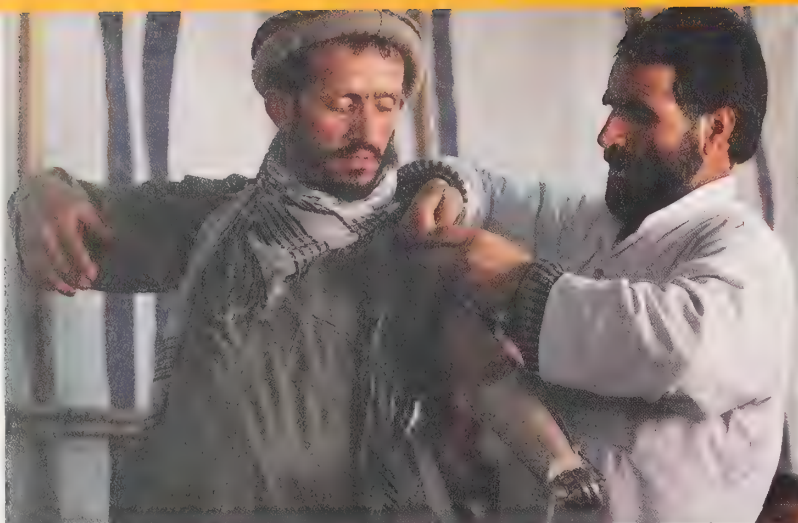
Bilateral relations between Canada and Lebanon have been strong for many years, reinforced by each country's membership in the United Nations, La Francophonie, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and by the presence of embassies in each other's capitals since 1958. The two countries do business together (including Canadian investment in Lebanon), and have each signed a foreign investment protection agreement as well as a double-taxation agreement.

Aid is another important link. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has supported Lebanon's reconstruction following the 1975-90 civil war, with contributions to date exceeding \$45 million. Through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, CIDA has also provided assistance to Palestinian refugees in the region, 370,000 of whom are registered in Lebanon. Among the other development projects: reforming Lebanon's taxation system in cooperation with the Lebanese Ministry of Finance (the country recently instituted a Value Added Tax based on Canada's Goods and Services Tax); a business administration training program

in cooperation with Lebanon's Hariri Foundation; and training for Lebanese post office personnel through CIDA's Industrial Cooperation Program. The Quebec government has contributed toward a museum on the archaeological site at the 7,000-year-old town of Byblos. The Government of Canada provided over \$4 million in logistical support for the Beirut Summit of La Francophonie.

In recognition of the ties between Canada and Lebanon, the Lebanese government contributed funds to replace many of the trees that had been destroyed in Ottawa's Rockcliffe Park during the historic 1998 ice storm.

NEWS BRIEFS



A landmine victim is fitted with an artificial arm in Kabul. After two decades of fighting, Afghanistan is one of the world's most heavily mined countries.

package of support for Afghan reconstruction announced in the December 2001 federal budget (see *Canada World View*, Issue 15, p. 18). The Canadian International Development Agency will contribute a total of \$8.5 million to MAPA, the UN's Comprehensive Disabled Afghans' Program and the rehabilitation program of the Guardians Institute of Orthopaedics, which works with disabled people in southern Afghanistan.

Milestone in ties between Canada and Trinidad and Tobago

In 2002, Canada and Trinidad and Tobago are celebrating a milestone: four decades of diplomatic relations. Over the years, ties between our two

countries have expanded in the areas of trade, culture, arts and education. Youth has always been an important focus of our relationship; for example, Presbyterians from Canada founded the educational system in southern Trinidad. More recently, the Canadian International Development Agency's Canada Fund has assisted Trinidad and Tobago in many youth-related ventures.

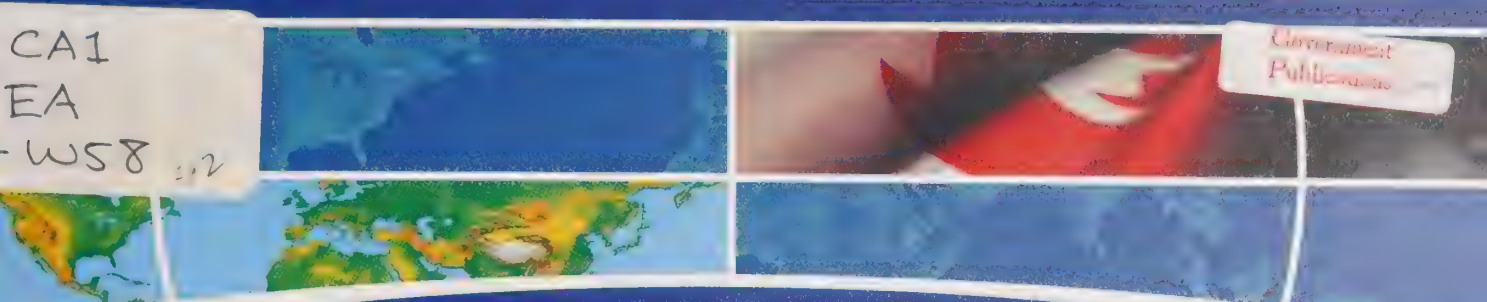
One such venture is Camp ABLE—an acronym for "Active Bodies, Leadership and Esteem." A pilot project held from May 30 to June 2, 2002, in Runnemedede, Tobago, this sports leadership development camp was for deaf or hearing-impaired students from the Caribbean. The

volunteer, non-profit program focused on teamwork, cooperation, confidence building, self-esteem and leadership, both in and out of sport. The camp hosted 25 children aged 12 to 15 from Barbados, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago. Six counsellors and five teachers ran the program.

The camp was the brainchild of Heather Moyse, of Summerside, Prince Edward Island—a youth intern on a nine-month assignment from the Commonwealth Games Association of Canada, serving with the Special Education Unit of the Ministry of Education in Trinidad. This year's success raises hope that Camp ABLE will be held annually and will continue to offer opportunities to hearing-impaired children from the region. 🍁

Participants in the Camp ABLE pilot program, Runnemedede, Tobago, with Canadian intern Heather Moyse (second row, right)





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Government Publications

Canada World View

ISSUE 18 • WINTER 2003

Culture

The many faces
of Canada abroad



- MUSIC
- THEATRE
- DANCE
- FILM
- VISUAL ARTS
- LITERATURE

About

Canada World View

Published quarterly in English and French, *Canada World View* provides an overview of Canada's perspective on foreign policy issues, and features international Canadian initiatives and contributions.

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Our cover

Sophia Fawcett plays Mexican painter Frida Kahlo in *La Casa Azul*—a production of *Ex Machina*, the multidisciplinary company of Quebec director Robert Laporte. Support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade enabled *Ex Machina* to take this and another production, *The Far Side of the Moon*, on tour abroad.
www.fox.ca

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Stéphane Léonard
in the Royal Winnipeg
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FOR CANADA ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

When *Amelia* had its world première at the State Opera in Prague last October, the curtain rose on more than the nine dancers of La La La Human Steps. Sharing the spotlight with the celebrated troupe was their homeland of Canada. But in fact the opening almost didn't happen.

Amelia was the culmination of a three-week festival of Canadian performing arts in the Czech capital. The production's mix of contemporary dance, video and music projected a very different image of Canada from the stereotype of lumberjacks and polar bears. But when flooding forced the declaration of a state of emergency two months earlier in Prague, the event was almost washed down the river.

Normally, the Vltava River winds peacefully through this picturesque city. In August 2002, though, heavy rains brought water levels to record highs, inundating much of the historic old town. One building damaged was the Archa Theatre, where *Amelia* was to be performed. Facing repairs that would cost around \$3 million, the Archa decided it could no longer handle a large-scale première.

Fortunately, at the last minute some Czech-based producers (including a Canadian) provided the necessary support and the show was able to open at the State Opera. Margaret Huber, Canada's Ambassador to the Czech Republic, was delighted that after all the Montreal company could begin its world tour of *Amelia* in Prague: "Like Montreal, it is a city that takes pride in culture, artistic excellence and high talent."

Canadian cultural events abroad don't usually have to overcome such obstacles. What they share with the opening of *Amelia* in Prague is something more positive: in cities all over the world, Canada's artists are winning acclaim, making a name for themselves and their country.



The spires of Prague Castle soar above the capital of the Czech Republic, where La La La Human Steps premiered *Amelia* in October 2002.



A scene from *Amelia*, the new production of La La La Human Steps, choreographed by artistic director Édouard Lock

Culture may not be what first springs to mind when people from other countries think of

Canada, but that is changing—thanks to cultural stars such as writers Margaret Atwood and Rohinton Mistry, theatre director Robert Lepage, filmmaker Atom Egoyan, installation artist Janet Cardiff, the Canadian Opera Company, and a host of other artists and groups. With their success, they are helping Canada emerge on the world scene, refashioning its national identity along the way.

"Our artists tell the world who we are by sharing our perspectives, values and tremendous creativity with the world," says Curtis Barlow, Director of the Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) in Ottawa. "And that influences the way people abroad see Canada when it comes time to invest, immigrate, import goods, travel or pursue post-secondary education."

The idea that arts and culture can open international doors isn't exactly new. Since 1995, when the Government of Canada undertook a major foreign policy review, the promotion of Canadian values and culture has been a key "pillar" of its foreign policy. The review concluded that a country not projecting itself well abroad was doomed to anonymity on the international scene.

Barlow says that the diversity and talent of Canadian artists help to represent Canada as a creative, innovative, culturally diverse and tolerant nation. But artists can also demonstrate to others the benefits that an open society brings. He calls this approach "cultural diplomacy." Canada's Governor General has made it a priority: to Europe and other continents, she has led delegations including distinguished artists as well as Aboriginal leaders and business people from Canada (see p. 27).

Support across the spectrum

Responsibility for cultural promotion is shared by DFAIT with the Canada Council for the Arts and the Department of Canadian Heritage. But with its network of embassies, high commissions and consulates, DFAIT is uniquely placed to give on-the-ground support to Canadian artists in other countries.

Spearheading efforts are the officers responsible for public affairs and culture at missions abroad. They are constantly on the lookout for opportunities to promote Canada and its artists. At the same time as *Amelia's* première in Prague, for example, Canada was the "country of honour" at the Cervantino Festival in Guanajuato, Mexico—one of Latin America's most prestigious cultural events (see *Canada World View*, Issue 17, pp. 16–17). Performing arts groups from across the country showed the dynamism and range of Canadian culture, enjoying rapturous receptions; many of them are profiled in this issue. Officers also help promote Canadian artists through parallel representation or networking events linked to major cultural gatherings, such as the Cannes Film Festival or the Edinburgh International Festival.

In addition, Canadian artists abroad can tap into a variety of DFAIT travel and export development programs. And then there are career development grants and support for Canadian festivals and conferences, as well as for cultural exchanges.

Barlow oversees a \$6.5 million program that provides travel grants to cultural professionals and arts organizations to cover the cost of international transportation. Individuals or groups in the fields of performing arts, visual and media arts, literature and publishing, film, video, and television are eligible. The subsidies may cover up to a maximum of 30 percent of the total project budget. DFAIT is not the main source of funds for artists but its grants often lend them credibility, helping them leverage additional funding elsewhere. Many of the artists featured in this issue of *Canada World View* have benefited from these types of grants.

"Our intent is not to fund all Canadian cultural events abroad but to increase the number and quality of those events," says Barlow. "We strive to support a mix that, over time, is representative of all artistic disciplines, all Canadian provinces and territories, both official languages, Aboriginal people, and youth, as well as different cultural communities. This is a true reflection of our country and its cultural make-up."



Aboriginal dance troupe Damien Brazier



Ballet legend Karen Kain teaches a master class in Toronto, January 2002.

Further, the Department's trade specialists assist cultural industries to compete globally. To help export-ready Canadian companies develop a presence in foreign markets, they offer a range of export development services; these include information and the tools needed to obtain a clear view of the international or local scene.

Culture is very important to the Canadian economy, with exports worth \$5 billion in 2000. Cultural products and services contribute over \$20 billion to our gross domestic product. Cultural industries are said to be the country's fifth-largest employer, accounting for over 600,000 jobs. The United States is by far Canada's biggest market but others are important as well, including Europe and Asia.

DFAIT also plays a part on the policy level, actively supporting the efforts of partners such as Canadian Heritage to achieve a New International Instrument on Cultural Diversity. This would enable Canada and other countries to maintain domestic policies on cultural diversity, while respecting international trade rules and allowing scope for cultural exports (see box, p. 26).

Getting the message across

Karen Kain, a former prima ballerina and now artistic associate with the National Ballet of Canada, is enthusiastic about taking Canadian culture on the road. Doing so, she says, projects the image of Canada and gives Canadian artists international exposure.

"The National Ballet has always been proud to bear Canada's name, and transmitting something of the values and spirit of the country to our audiences has always been part of who we are and what we do," Kain told the Canadian Club of Toronto in May 2002.

She recalled the critical impact that travelling and performing abroad had had on her professional development and on the growth of the National Ballet as a company. At the same time, she stressed, "Wherever the National Ballet of Canada has performed, we have acted as ambassadors not just for our art but for our country."

Her words apply to all Canadian artists. At home, they inspire and challenge us. Abroad, they are messengers who say to the world, in a way that may not be typical of Canadians' famous modesty, "Look at us: we are a young nation, vibrant and creative, with much for you to explore and learn from."

It is an exciting and compelling message. And DFAIT is proud that its officers help it to reach far and wide around the world. 🍁

Through the Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division, DFAIT supports Canadian culture and artists abroad.
For more information:
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/arts



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA

builds cultural bridges in Mideast and Europe

The National Arts Centre Orchestra with conductor Pinchas Zukerman after a performance in Berlin, Germany, 2000

Music is a universal language, says world-renowned violinist Pinchas Zukerman: “It is an art form that doesn’t need translation. It can cross barriers and build bridges, culturally, linguistically, if you let it.”

As music director of the Ottawa-based National Arts Centre Orchestra, Maestro Zukerman saw these words proved true when the ensemble toured the Middle East and Europe in October 2000. On the three-week program were 15 performances in seven countries, along with many master classes, school visits and Webcasts. The schedule kept members of Canada’s national orchestra busy. But they were proud to fulfill their role as cultural emissaries from a country with an international reputation for bridge-building.

Since the orchestra was founded in 1969, touring—both within Canada and abroad—has been an important part of its activities. It performs regularly in the United States and has travelled throughout Europe, as well as in Russia and Asia. The 2000 tour was the most extensive in the orchestra’s history, with performances in Israel, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, France and Britain. Helping to make it possible was financial assistance from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), plus logistical support from Canadian embassies and consulates.

Alongside Beethoven, the program showcased compositions by Canadians Denis Gougeon and Peter Paul Koprowski. Performing as violin soloists were Edmonton, Alberta, prodigy Jessica Linnebach (age 17) and Maestro Zukerman himself.

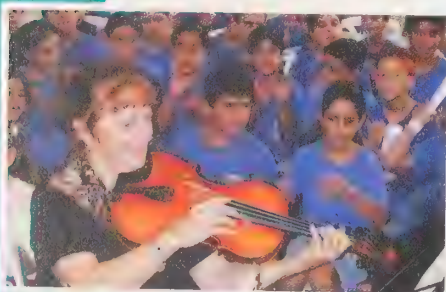
The tour began with two sold-out concerts in Zukerman’s home town of

making.” An equally warm reception awaited the orchestra in Europe, where the ensemble earned praise for its virtuosity, warmth and clarity of sound. After a sold-out concert in Cologne, Germany, noted one reviewer, “Encores were required to calm the enthusiasm of the audience.”

Before the start of the tour Prime Minister Jean Chrétien had requested orchestra members to serve as “cultural diplomats.” Nowhere did they take that role more seriously than in the Middle East, where they were scheduled to perform in Israel and—a first for the orchestra—Jordan. Among the educational events planned was a video conference between Canadian, Israeli and Palestinian high school students, as well as a master class with the Orchestra and students from the National Conservatory of Palestine in the West Bank city of Ramallah. Unfortunately, at the last minute an outbreak of violence forced cancellation of the Jordan concert, the video conference and the event in Ramallah, but the orchestra is calling this only a “postponement.”

Educational outreach was an important aspect of the orchestra’s bridge-building efforts wherever it went on the tour. Maestro Zukerman and players visited local schools and held master classes in several cities. A Web site enabled music lovers and students in Canada to tune in to (and even participate in) live Webcasts of master classes or access the musicians’ daily tour journals. Says education manager Claire Speed, the tour reinforced the orchestra’s role “not only as educators, but as international educators.”

The tour undoubtedly created strong bonds across borders, with the key strand being the music itself. The orchestra is scheduled to tour the United States and Mexico in fall 2003, with support from DFAIT and Export Development Canada. ♣



National Arts Centre Orchestra violinist Janet Roy teaches elementary schoolchildren in Tel Aviv, Israel.

Tel Aviv. There critics hailed the orchestra players as professionals who performed with the “enthusiasm and warmth of amateurs” and transmitted the “love of music

CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY

gets raves at Edinburgh International Festival

Absolutely unmissable." "Stroke of genius." "The hottest ticket in town—beg, borrow or steal one." "An invention of blinding genius in its creation and presentation." Those were some of the accolades received by the Canadian Opera Company (COC) of Toronto, Ontario, for its double bill of Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* with *Symphony of Psalms*, presented at the Edinburgh International Festival in Scotland in August 2002.

One of the world's premier arts events, the Edinburgh Festival attracts performers of the highest calibre and audiences from around the world. Canada's national opera company, the COC made its European debut at the festival in 1993, with support from DFAIT. There it presented Bartok's *Bluebeard's Castle* and Schoenberg's *Erwartung*. Its efforts garnered two awards worth a total of £50,000: the 1993 Critics' Award for Music and the Scotsman–Hamada Trust Festival Prize in the categories of both music and drama.

That first European trip defined the COC as one of the world's most visionary and compelling producers of opera, a company that combines theatrical and musical excellence. According to a British reviewer in August 2002, the COC's debut was still being talked about nine years after the event, and its return production had an impact that was "no less shattering."

After 1993 the company had had to turn down two subsequent invitations to Edinburgh. But with financial support from DFAIT and the Canada Council for the Arts, in 2002 it was at last able to attend the festival. It was a challenge to transport overseas a company of 167 soloists, chorus members, orchestra musicians, dancers, crew and production staff, along with three sea containers of set pieces and props weighing over two tonnes. London-based staff at the Canadian High Commission and Canada House assisted with the logistics. They also provided

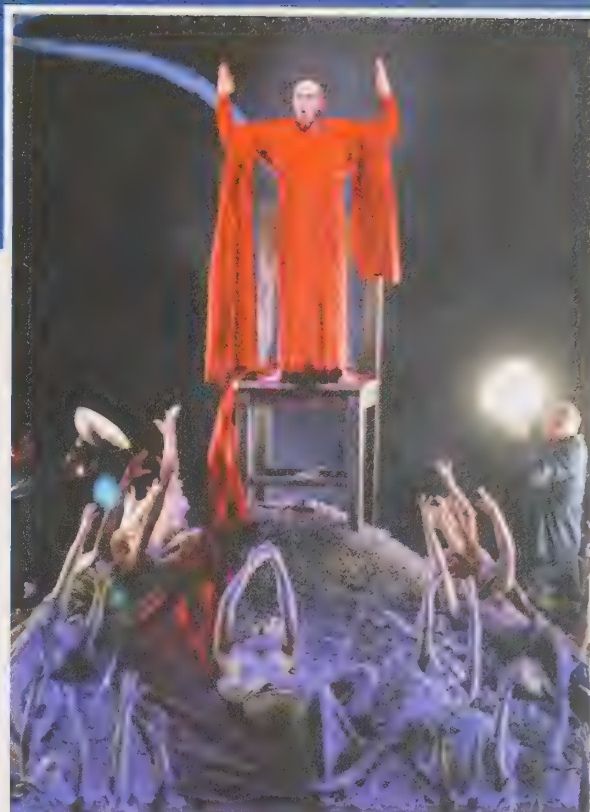
administrative help and marketing support, and hosted a reception for the company.

Oedipus Rex with *Symphony of Psalms* was directed by François Girard and conducted by Richard Bradshaw. Featured were Canadian tenor Michael Schade, Polish contralto Ewa Podleś and Canadian actor Colm Feore in a speaking part. The production enthralled the audience with its imagery. One reviewer urged "all theatre, opera and music lovers to get to Edinburgh's Playhouse tonight or tomorrow to experience one of the most extraordinary visual and dramatic encounters imagined for and realized upon the stage."

Founded over 50 years ago, the COC is the largest producer of opera in Canada and the sixth-largest in North America. Every year the company presents six fully staged productions at Toronto's Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts. It has toured in the United States, Europe, Australia and Hong Kong.

DFAIT's Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division has also supported the COC's Ensemble Studio, Canada's pre-eminent training program for young singers, directors and coaches. In 2001, a DFAIT travel grant assisted the Ensemble Studio to travel to the Netherlands to perform with De Nederlandse Opera. World-recognized alumni of the program include Ben Heppner, Kimberly Barber, John Fanning, Sally Dibblee, and new international sensations James Westman and Isabel Bayrakdarian. ■

Michael Schade as Oedipus in *Oedipus Rex* with *Symphony of Psalms*, performed by the Canadian Opera Company in Edinburgh in August 2002



CANADIAN MUSICIANS

hit high notes around the world

Canadian musicians include Aboriginal composers of world music, Acadians who fuse Celtic and modern rhythms, Québécois chamber players, Torontonians who perform on authentic baroque instruments, and many other musically and culturally diverse groups and individuals across the country. More than ever today, they are earning bravos at home and around the world.

Two weeks after the September 11 terrorist attacks, Quebec City's Les Violons du Roy brought a moving concert to New Yorkers. The chamber orchestra's program had been fixed the previous spring, with two works on the bill: Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* (initially called "Mass in Time of Stress") and Mozart's *Requiem*. The choice turned out to be uncannily appropriate. As artistic director Bernard Labadie told the audience, he would still have picked this

program, with its elements of fear and hope, death and comfort. Les Violons du Roy has been widely praised for its energy, brilliance and (especially in this performance) its emotional intensity. Since 1988 the group has made over 100 concert appearances in Europe, Morocco, Canada and the United States. DFAIT is helping to fund a planned 2003 tour of the United States and Ecuador.

At the other end of the globe and the musical spectrum is Matthew Lien, a composer and performer of Aboriginal-inspired world music. The Yukon musician is enjoying phenomenal—and, for a foreigner, unprecedented—popularity in Taiwan. After an earthquake devastated the island in 1999, his "Rebuilding Formosa" benefit concert drew a crowd of 30,000 to Taipei. With financial assistance from DFAIT and logistical support from the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei, Lien returned for an anniversary concert in the fall of 2000. During his various tours, the Taiwanese have heaped honours on Lien, naming him "Ambassador to Aboriginal Culture."

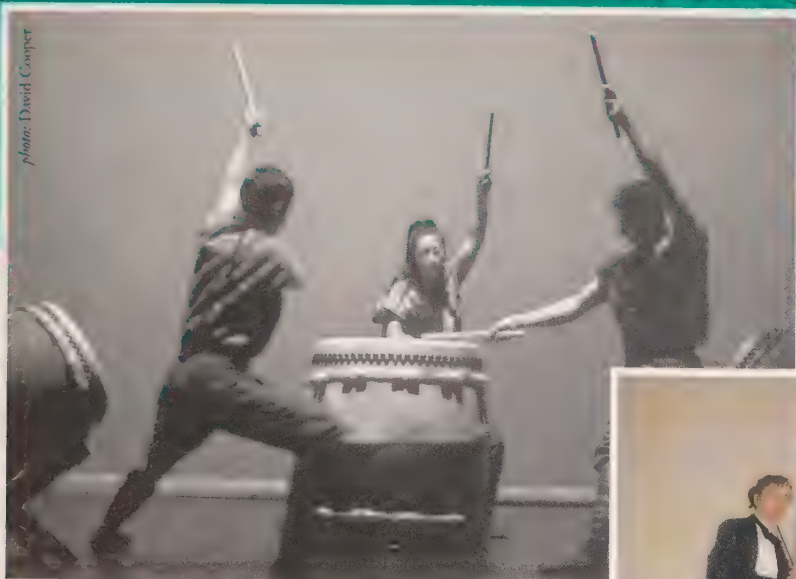
DFAIT provides support for performances abroad of music by new Canadians and Canadians of diverse backgrounds. In 2002, for example, Khac Chi—Sounds of Vietnam toured Malaysia, Brunei and Belgium, where the husband-and-wife duo gained plaudits. Based in Canada since 1992, the ensemble seeks to bring traditional Vietnamese music to Western audiences.



Yukon composer and performer
Matthew Lien

Quebec City chamber orchestra Les Violons du Roy,
with conductor Bernard Labadie





Vancouver's Japanese-influenced Uzume Taiko

More eclectic is Uzume Taiko of Vancouver, British Columbia, which combines the choreographed physicality of martial arts, the heart-stopping pulse of Japanese *taiko* drumming and the rhythmic sensitivity of a jazz ensemble. Canada's first professional *taiko* group, Uzume has toured Europe and Japan with support from DFAIT's Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division.

A percussion ensemble of a different kind is TUYO of Montreal, Quebec, a group of musicians who perform on instruments of their own devising. DFAIT has provided funding for them to tour abroad, with their most recent visit being to France this February.

Again in 2002, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra of Toronto, Ontario, marked its 10th anniversary as the orchestra-in-residence of Germany's Klang und Raum Festival in Irsee. One German reviewer praised the group for "both technical perfection and delight in music-making." With DFAIT assistance, Tafelmusik has performed in two dozen countries in the past 20 years.

Equally celebrated is I Musici de Montréal. Under the guidance of artistic director Yuli Turovsky, who also performs as solo cellist, the Montreal chamber ensemble has played the world's major concert halls: Lincoln Center in New York, the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, Tokyo's Kioi Hall, Geneva's Victoria Hall, and the Gewandhaus in Leipzig. I Musici's 1992 recording of Handel's Concerti Grossi, Opus 6 set the standard. This past February the group toured the United States.

Contemporary music is the specialty of Montreal's Nouvel Ensemble Moderne (NEM), a chamber group that has won critical acclaim in the United States, Europe and



I Musici de Montréal, with conductor Yuli Turovsky

Asia. In October 2002, DFAIT assistance enabled NEM to perform at Mexico's 30th annual Cervantino Festival.

NEM was one of many groups representing Canada at the festival. Among the others: Toronto's Gryphon Trio, a leading classical music ensemble; the Kanenhi:io Singers, a group of four First Nations women from Ontario; the Six Nations Women Singers; Slainte Mhath (Gaelic for "to your health"), a young and talented band from Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, which brings the Celtic tradition into the 21st century; and again from Nova Scotia, the dynamic Acadian group Grand Dérangement, which had the audience clapping and dancing. 🍁

CANADIAN THEATRE

A STAR PERFORMER

Theatre is front and centre in Canada's efforts to reach across international boundaries and highlight our country's creativity and artistic expression. The Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) funds Canadian theatre festivals, including the World Stage Festival in Toronto (Ontario), Les Coups de Théâtre in Montreal (Quebec) and the Vancouver International Children's Festival (British Columbia). It also supports the Playwrights Union of Canada and the Centre des auteurs dramatiques in order to promote Canadian theatre at home and abroad. And it facilitates international tours for many Canadian theatre companies, including Théâtre UBU (appearances at Scotland's Edinburgh Festival and in Taiwan), the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde (France) and the Manitoba Theatre for Young People (Asia).

- In its three decades, Nova Scotia's Mermaid Theatre has introduced more than 2.5 million children on four continents to the magic of live theatre. Last fall, Mermaid presented *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Very Quiet Cricket* at the Cervantino Festival in Mexico. The company was also featured at the 2002 Taipei Children's Arts Festival. In 2001, Mermaid Theatre won a prestigious Canada Export Award in recognition of its international success. For its 30th anniversary it will perform in 6 Canadian provinces, 21 U.S. states plus Washington, D.C., Mexico, Vietnam, Taiwan and Japan—its most extensive tour ever.
- Based in Edmonton, Alberta, Catalyst Theatre has garnered over 30 awards and nominations for its productions. In 1999, its *House of Pootsie Plunket* won two prizes at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. In 2001, DFAIT helped it bring its musical production *Blue Orphan* to the Festival.
- Robert Lepage is one of contemporary theatre's most talented directors. Among his notable productions are *Vinci*, which won the *Prix Coup de Pouce* at the Festival d'Avignon in France. His company, Ex Machina, is a multidisciplinary group bringing together actors, writers, set designers, technicians, opera singers, puppeteers, computer graphic designers, video artists, film producers, contortionists and musicians. With DFAIT support, Ex Machina has been touring abroad with its
- Founded in 1973, Les Deux Mondes has created a score of spectacles and performed nearly 3,000 shows in more than 200 cities on five continents. The Montreal-based theatre group also participated in the 2002 Cervantino Festival, presenting *Mémoire vive*—one of its many original stage productions to win international acclaim. This past January it presented *Mémoire vive* in Hong Kong and Macau, China.



Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's dramatization of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, based on the children's classic by Eric Carle

Michael Scholar Jr. (lying down) and Sheri Somerville in *Blue Orphan*, performed by Edmonton's Catalyst Theatre at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2001





Catherine Archambault in *Mémoire vive*, a production of Montreal's Les Deux Mondes



Michel Lemieux, Pierre-André Côté and Noémie Godin-Vigneau in the 4D art production of *Anima*

productions of Sophie Faucher's *La Casa Azul* (a work based on the life of Mexican painter Frida Kahlo) (see cover) and Lepage's *The Far Side of the Moon*.

- Montreal-based Carbone 14 is famous for its strong tradition of artistic creation combining theatre, dance, music and film. Many of its productions have been seen by audiences all over the world. Since it was first produced, Carbone 14's *Le Dortoir* has played to more than 110,000 spectators in 18 countries on four continents. DFAIT funded tours of Carbone 14 productions *Visitatio* in 2001 and *Silence et Cris* in 2002. The group will present its latest production, *La Bibliothèque*, at the World Stage Festival in Toronto in April, and it hopes to tour the work internationally.
- *Anima* is the new production of Montreal-based 4D art, a multidisciplinary company co-directed by Michel Lemieux and Victor Pilon (see *Canada World View*, Issue 4, p. 11). Drawing on zoologist Desmond Morris' 1967 bestseller *The Naked Ape*, the piece uses virtual reality, a light show, live musicians, sound effects, film and dance to explore the realm of the human animal. *Anima* received enthusiastic reviews last June in the Netherlands (where it premiered) and England. In 2003 it goes to China and Austria.

- Canada is well known internationally for the quality and creativity of its Aboriginal theatre. Several companies are performing and touring in Canada and the United States, as well as overseas in countries from Australia and France to Japan and Mexico. A leading Aboriginal playwright, Ian Ross, won the 1997 Governor General's Award for Drama for his play *fareWel*. DFAIT funding made possible its presentation at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2001.

- Another leading Aboriginal voice, Tomson Highway overcame a turbulent youth of poverty and abuse in a residential school to become Canada's most recognized Aboriginal playwright. His award-winning plays include *The Rez Sisters* and *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*. From 1986 to 1992 he was artistic director of Native Earth Performing Arts in Toronto—one of the few places in North America dedicated to the development of Aboriginal dramatic arts. For years Native Earth has been a training ground for talented Indigenous people in Canada, and it has won many major international awards. Each summer, the company stages an annual festival of new Aboriginal playwrights at the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto. ♣



Aboriginal playwright Tomson Highway

DANCE

CANADIAN DANCE LEAPS ONTO THE WORLD STAGE

Les Ballets jazz
de Montréal

Canadian dance has leapt onto the world stage in recent years. A major success story from Quebec is Les Ballets jazz de Montréal, one of the busiest touring groups in North America. Artistic director Louis Robitaille has given Les Ballets jazz a crisp, contemporary, neoclassical style. Its electrifying performances wowed audiences in Asia in 2001, and in Europe in 2002. This year Mexico was on the itinerary: a February tour assisted by DFAIT's Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division, featuring the widely acclaimed *Light-Time-Open Space I & II*.

Édouard Lock's La La La Human Steps is another of the high-calibre Canadian dance companies active on the international scene. DFAIT has been instrumental in the success of the group and is currently providing assistance for the world tour of *Amelia*, the company's latest creation.

The work premiered in Prague, Czech Republic, in October 2002 (see p. 3). Over the next two years the production will tour Europe, Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore and South America.

A high note of 2002 was the Cervantino Festival in Guanajuato, Mexico. The two prominent Canadian dance companies that performed there could not have differed more in style: Ballet British Columbia is a progressive classical ballet

leading North American and European ballet companies. The conference focused on the role of the artistic director in dealing with a variety of aesthetic, administrative and managerial considerations.

Manitoba's Royal Winnipeg Ballet has won acclaim around the world for its innovative productions of both classical and contemporary ballet. In summer 2001 it toured Asia, with several stops in China, performing *Dracula* and *Butterfly*.

A DFAIT priority continues to be the international promotion of First Nations culture. Recently funded projects include the inspired Inuit group Aqsarniit, an ensemble that mesmerizes audiences with drum dancing and throat singing. In Vancouver, British Columbia, the Raven Spirit Dance Company received funding for a unique cross-cultural project that brought performance artist Yukio Waguri from Japan for workshops and performances. Among other groups, the Dakwakada Dancers went to the Netherlands last summer and Kehewin Native Performance went to Switzerland last November.

DFAIT also supports artists and groups from Canada's cultural communities. For example, the Menaka Thakkar Dance Company, based in Toronto, Ontario, received a grant to visit Britain in 2000; the troupe performs Bharata Natyam (Indian classical dance). Another grant recipient in 2000 was Toronto's Fujiwara Dance, which performs Butoh (an avant-garde Japanese dance form). And last summer, assistance went to Kokoro Dance of Vancouver for a tour of Poland; the company integrates the aesthetics of Europe and Japan.

In many different styles, in many different traditions, Canadian dance is scoring successes—yet more evidence of our country's vibrant, diverse culture. ♣



Tara Birtwhistle and Johnny W. Chang in *Dracula*, an original production presented by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet during its 2001 Asian tour

troupe, while Les gens d'R specializes in aerial ballet and circus acrobatics in the manner of Cirque du Soleil. Both received assistance from DFAIT to perform at the festival and in several other venues across Mexico.

A major event within the international ballet community was a conference in May 2002 on the past, present and future of ballet, hosted by National Ballet of Canada artistic director James Kudelka. This was the first conference in North America to bring together the artistic directors of

ATOM EGOYAN

Ambassador of the silver screen

As a student in international affairs at the University of Toronto in the early 1980s, Atom Egoyan was training for a diplomatic career—until he discovered filmmaking. Before graduation he completed two short films, one of them eventually shown on CBC television. He has gone on to become one of Canada's most innovative and internationally renowned filmmakers, introducing audiences the world over to his unique artistic vision.

Egoyan was born in Cairo, Egypt, in 1960, to parents of Armenian descent. Three years later they settled in Victoria, British Columbia. It was only in university that Atom began to explore his Armenian roots, embarking on a search that finds reflection in his films.

His first full-length feature, *Next of Kin* (1984), portrays a young man claiming to be the son that an Armenian-Canadian family had given up for adoption long before. In *Calendar* (1993), Egoyan himself played a photographer travelling in Armenia; shot on location, the film enabled him to visit his family's homeland for the first time. His latest work, *Ararat* (2002) recalls the themes of *Next of Kin*. This is a contemporary story about the search for personal, sexual and cultural identity.

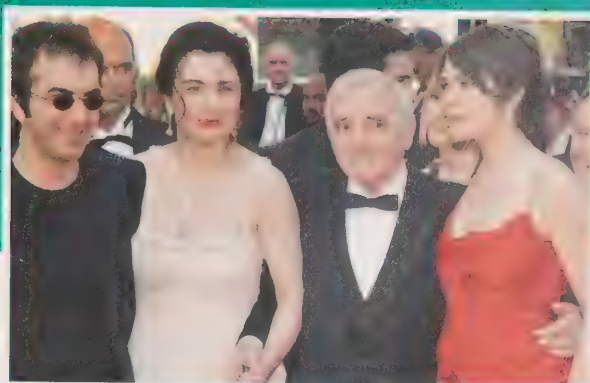
"I had always contemplated a film about the unique history of the Armenian people," says Egoyan. He calls *Ararat* "a deeply personal piece of work. While there are certain motifs I have explored in my other films, this is the first time I have directly addressed the notion of historical consciousness on such a scale.

"The film within the film revisits the historic events [of 1915] in an

attempt to recreate the past," he explains. "The contemporary story and its present-day characters reconstruct their own histories according to their own needs, memories and imaginations."

Egoyan's partner in both life and art is Arsinée Khanjian, a fellow Armenian who was born in Lebanon and came to Canada at the age of 17. Since they first met, Khanjian has been featured in each of Egoyan's films. "Our relationship is part of the alchemy of the films themselves," says Egoyan.

The director of nearly a dozen feature films, Egoyan won the prestigious International Critics Prize at the Cannes Film Festival for *Exotica* (1994). Along with films such as *Family Viewing* (1987), *Speaking Parts* (1989) and *The Adjuster* (1991), *Exotica* explores two favourite themes of Egoyan: intimacy and displacement. *The Sweet Hereafter* (1997) won three prizes at Cannes, and received two Oscar nominations for Best Director and Best Adapted Screenplay. *Felicia's Journey* (1999) was nominated for the *Palme d'or* at Cannes and was chosen to open the Toronto International Film Festival.



Arriving for a screening of *Ararat* at the Cannes Festival in May 2002 are Atom Egoyan (far left) and Arsinée Khanjian (beside him). With them are two of the actors who appear in the film: the great French singer/songwriter Charles Aznavour and Montrealese Marie-Josée Croze, who won a Genie Award for her starring role in Denis Villeneuve's *Maelström*.

Most recently, here in Canada *Ararat* won a Genie Award this February for Best Motion Picture, and Arsinée Khanjian was named Best Leading Actress for her role in the film.

Egoyan's films have been promoted by Canada's missions abroad through special events held in conjunction with international film festivals, and through screenings as part of "Canadian film weeks" organized by our embassies and consulates. While the Genie Awards ceremony was taking place this past February, Egoyan was in Cairo for that city's first Canadian film festival, organized by the Canadian Embassy. On the program was a retrospective showing of all the films of Egoyan. To attend this event, the filmmaker received support from the Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT).

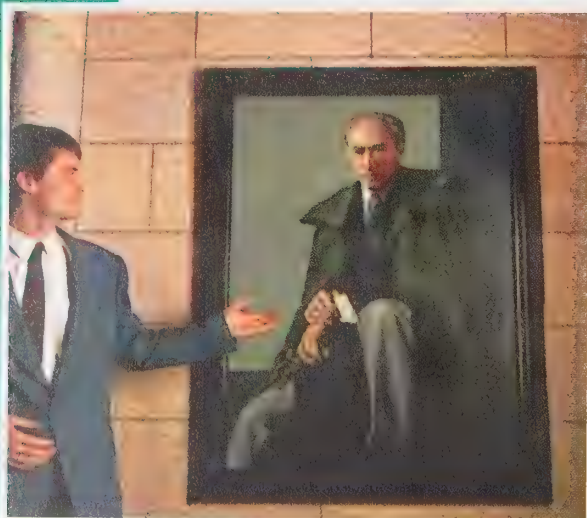
Egoyan was also among the artists who accompanied the Governor General and her husband on their state visit to Germany last year (see p. 27).

In the end Egoyan has become an emissary of our country, giving a picture of Canadian culture to the world. ♣

JUST WATCH US!

Films showcase Canadian culture abroad

All over the world—in Buenos Aires and Seoul, in Bogotá and Shanghai, in Mexico City, Sydney and Tokyo—Canadian missions and consulates are using film to shake up perceptions about Canada, promote Canadian culture and encourage interest in our country's cultural industries.



A Parliament Hill tour guide with the official portrait of former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau from the NFB production *Just Watch Me: Trudeau and the 70s Generation*

In Taiwan, for example, many people still view Canada as a land of mountains, snow and maple trees. To counteract these stereotypes, the Canadian Trade Office in Taipei worked with Canadian and local partners to hold a small-scale festival in February–March 2003 called “Canada Through the Lens: The Landscape You Haven’t Seen.” On the program: newly released features, documentaries and animated films, along with lectures and seminars. It’s an ideal way to highlight Canada as an innovative, cosmopolitan and multicultural society.

Jack Horwitz of the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) says that the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade “has a history of understanding how to use film for public diplomacy and sometimes how to leverage the intellectual capital in a film into the society that [diplomats are] living in. When people use the arts in that way, it’s really quite extraordinary.”

Over the past year, DFAIT and the NFB have built on their long-standing relationship to create a film library within the Department’s Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division. Since January 2002, missions and consulates have been able to borrow copies of NFB productions for screening abroad.

“We have over 70 titles in the library,” says Karen Green, chief contact for the library. “Missions and viewing audiences benefit from this effective, no-cost cultural initiative. We ship the videos in the diplomatic bag, and guidelines stipulate that the missions do not charge for the screenings.”

Using suggestions from Horwitz, the library is constantly adding to its

collection. In 2002 it bought the rights to about 20 new films—part of its effort to respond to growing demand for material in support of the Semaine de la Francophonie.

Green adds, “Due to the popularity of many of our films—for example, *Mon oncle Antoine* and *Just Watch Me: Trudeau and the 70s Generation*—we’ve purchased extra copies to accommodate the demand from missions.”

Jack Horwitz has helped the Department send NFB films everywhere from Chicago to Havana, and from Washington to Moscow. In 2001 the embassy in Seoul, South Korea, showed some 87 different films as part of a hugely successful Canada Animation Festival. That same year, the embassy in Austria programmed a retrospective of author Mordecai Richler for Jewish Film Week in Vienna.

“It’s about finding the right tool for the right demographic,” says Horwitz. “We ask them, ‘Who is your audience?’ and ‘What do you want them to take away?’ If you get an audience that’s willing to take a tough film, we can get them a tough film.” ♦

For more information, contact:

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
E-mail: karen.green@dfait-maeci.gc.ca

ABORIGINAL FILMMAKERS

tell their stories

Aboriginal filmmakers are leaving their mark on Canada's cultural landscape. Perhaps the best-known today is Zacharias Kunuk, director of *Atanarjuat* ("The Fast Runner")—the first feature film ever produced, directed and acted by Inuit. Inspired by an ancient legend, this work fascinated audiences from Australia to South Africa, and won awards at home and abroad, including the *Caméra d'or* for Best First Feature Film at the Cannes Festival in 2001 (see *Canada World View*, Issue 12, pp. 10–11). It also pumped more than \$1.5 million into Igloolik, an isolated community of 1,200 people in Canada's newest territory of Nunavut.

That success may be hard to match. But there are many other Aboriginal filmmakers in Canada producing experimental and animated shorts, full-length comedies and dramas, or provocative documentaries. They depict timeless legends, preserve language and stories, and chronicle challenges such as substance abuse and racism. These artists are garnering critical acclaim around the world. At the same time, they are preserving traditions, challenging stereotypes and fighting injustice.

Atanarjuat was unusual in being released commercially, but alternative showcases are proliferating for Aboriginal film. They range from prestigious events such as the Sundance Festival in the U.S. state of Utah to imagineNATIVE, an international Aboriginal media arts festival in Toronto, Ontario.

The small screen also offers big opportunities. The Aboriginal People's Television Network carries work of Toronto-based Big Soul Productions,

continued on page 31



Natar Ungalaq plays the title role in *Atanarjuat*, a co-production of Igloolik Isuma Productions and the NFB.

Inuit director Zacharias Kunuk with the *Caméra d'or* award for his film *Atanarjuat* ("The Fast Runner") at the 2001 Cannes Festival. This was the first Inuit film presented at Cannes.

Interns get "reel" world experience

Thanks to DFAIT's Youth International Internship Program (YIIP), young Canadians are getting the chance to travel in order to learn about the film industry and gain invaluable international experience.

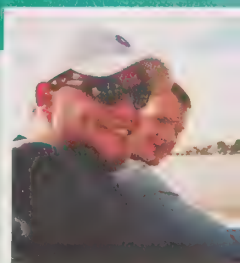
Part of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy, YIIP helps around 400 Canadian interns per year have their first paid career-related international work experience. From office jobs to research to field work, the placements (now in some 115 countries) enable youth to acquire specific marketable skills.

With support from YIIP, the Canadian Film and Television

Production Association places interns with mentor companies for up to six months. During that time they learn about such activities as production, marketing, distribution and communications.

Michael Francis, for example, is interning as production manager for Coming Home Films, based on Mayne Island in British Columbia. From February to March, he travelled to Uganda to work on a documentary called *Sounds of Sunshine*. In previous years, Coming Home mentored four other interns, who worked on location in Cambodia, Thailand, India, Vietnam, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

While an intern with Trinôme Inc. of Montreal, Quebec, Bernard Larivière travelled from Mexico to the southernmost tip of South America and back again. It was all part of his job as production coordinator of the documentary series *Plein Sud: The Southern Journey* (2002). As often happens, after the internship ended Larivière was hired by his mentor company on contract. Other interns have gone on to find work at the CBC.



YIIP film interns Michael Francis (left) and Andrew Millard on location in Cambodia

For more information:
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/interns

WIDE SCREEN

Canada's diversity on film

Reflecting our diverse society, Canada's filmmakers present different angles on issues such as race, gender, sexuality, history, identity and the nature of the cinema itself. Two federal government agencies—Telefilm Canada and the National Film Board of Canada—provide support for the production of Canadian films. And to assist in gaining international recognition, the Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade helps film producers attend film festivals and networking events abroad.

- Haitian-born Martine Chartrand painted directly on glass to create

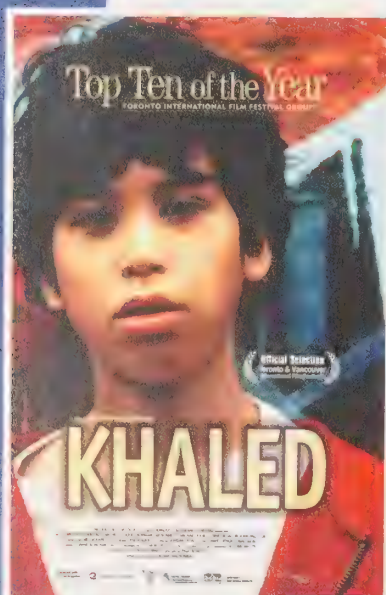
Black Soul (2001), a 10-minute animated tour through the defining moments of black history. Among other awards, it won the Golden Bear for best short film at the 2001 Berlin International Film Festival in Germany. DFAIT enabled the

producer of *Black Soul* to attend the 2002 Zagreb International Festival of Animation, in Croatia.

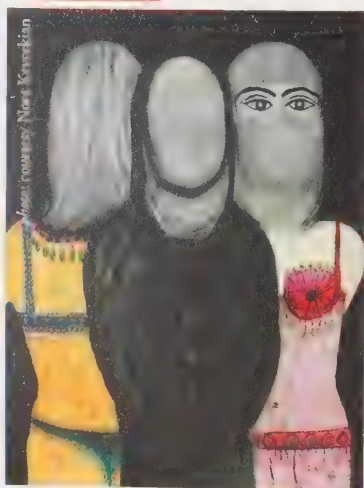
- A critical and popular success, Thom Fitzgerald's 1997 film *The Hanging Garden* won awards in Canada and abroad. DFAIT support helped the film gain an international audience. Fitzgerald has set his latest film in the Romanian capital of Bucharest. Through a one-week period, *The Wild Dogs* (2002) follows a diplomat's lonely wife, a visiting Canadian pornographer and a reluctant dogcatcher.
- *Veils Uncovered* (2002) is an intimate journey among the veiled women of Damascus, Syria. It was written, produced and directed by Nora Kevorkian, who is of Armenian and Lebanese background. The film has won three awards in Canada, including Outstanding Documentary at the 2002 ReelWorld Film Festival in Toronto, Ontario. Kevorkian received a travel grant from DFAIT to go to the Netherlands for the 2002 International Documentary Filmfestival Amsterdam.
- Since 1986, Guy Maddin of Winnipeg, Manitoba, has created a unique cinematic language drawing on an extensive knowledge

of his Icelandic heritage and film history, particularly silent and early sound films. His latest work, *Dracula: Pages From a Virgin's Diary* (2002), is a synthesis of avant-garde film and choreography, featuring dancers of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. Last November it won an International Emmy Award.

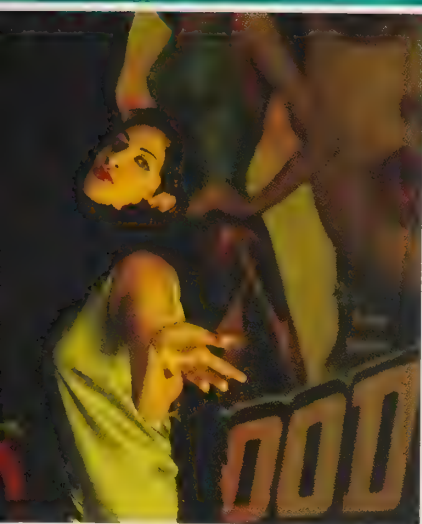
- Iranian-born Asghar Massombagi's *Khaled* (2001) is the story of a 10-year-old boy in inner-city Toronto who was abandoned by his North African father and then struggles to conceal the death of his mother. In 2002, DFAIT support enabled the film's producer, Paul Scherzer, to attend the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival in the Czech Republic. *Khaled* has been shown at Cannes and other festivals in Europe, Israel, the United States, Korea, Taiwan and India. It won Massombagi the Best Director Award at Karlovy Vary and the First Time Filmmaker Award at the 2002 ReelWorld Film Festival.
- In 1999, Daniel MacIvor's play *Marion Bridge* was nominated for a Governor General's Award. Last year the film adaptation, directed by Wiebke von Carolsfeld, was named Best Canadian First Feature



Michael D'Ascenzo plays the title role in the film *Khaled*.



Veils Uncovered, a painting (watercolour on canvas) by artist/photographer/director Nora Kevorkian



Director Nisha Pahuja against billboard of her documentary film *Bollywood Bound*

at the Toronto International Film Festival. With DFAIT support, in early 2003 the film was shown at the International Film Festival Rotterdam in the Netherlands. *Marion Bridge* is the story of three sisters who return to their home in Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, to be with their dying mother.

- *Bollywood Bound* (2002) marks the directorial debut of Nisha Pahuja. This NFB documentary tracks four young Indo-Canadians who seek fame and fortune in Bombay's film industry. With DFAIT support, Pahuja attended the première of her film at the Indo Canadian Film Festival in Delhi, India.
- Cassandra Nicolaou won the Audience Award for drama for her short film *Interviews With My Next Girlfriend* (2001) at Immaginaria 2002, the International Lesbian Film Festival in Bologna, Italy.
- *Lunch With Charles* (2001) light-heartedly portrays a Hong Kong couple facing the dilemmas of career, immigration and love. The film was produced by husband-and-wife team Michael Parker and Shan

Tam; Parker also wrote and directed. *Lunch With Charles* was shown at the 2002 Asian Pacific American Film Festival in Washington, D.C.

- Directed by André Turpin, *Un crabe dans la tête* (2001) portrays a charming liar with an urge to be loved, who learns to come to terms with himself. The film was chosen to be Canada's entry in the Best Foreign Language Film category at the 2003 Academy Awards. To secure funding for future projects, Turpin went to New York City with DFAIT assistance to attend an international co-production fair.
- With a career spanning two decades, Peter Wintonick has a major international reputation as a documentary filmmaker. His best-known work is *Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the Media* (1992), a phenomenal success that has won 22 awards and been screened in 200 cities around the world.
- Leonard Farlinger's debut feature, *The Perfect Son* (2000) chronicles the rivalry between two brothers, one of whom is dying of AIDS. It stars actors Colm Feore and David Cubitt. DFAIT funded an appearance by the film's producer at the International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival in Turin, Italy. *The Perfect Son* has been shown at over 30 international festivals.
- Jamaican-born Clement Virgo now calls Toronto home. After the success of his first feature, *Rude* (1995), he won awards for *The Planet of Junior Brown* (1997) at festivals in the United States and Monaco. His latest film, *Love Come Down* (2000), won three Genie Awards in 2001.
- The reputation of Denis Villeneuve of Montreal, Quebec, is growing quickly. His first feature in 1998, *Un 32 août sur Terre*, wowed audiences with its quirky story. In 2001, his second film, *Maelström*, won five Genie Awards. It was screened that year at the Berlin International Film Festival, and was shown in Switzerland with support from the Canadian Embassy in Bern. ♣

Guy Maddin's *Dracula: Pages From a Virgin's Diary*, winner of a 2002 International Emmy Award

Colm Feore (left) and David Cubitt play two brothers in *The Perfect Son*.



TRUE COLOURS

Canadians shine internationally in the visual and media arts

On the international visual and media arts scene, Canada is gaining in stature. For proof, read the list of invited artists at the Venice Biennale, one of the world's leading arts events.

photo courtesy Prog-In Gallery, Winnipeg



Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller created the multimedia work *The Paradise Institute*, winner of the Special Award at the 2001 Venice Biennale.

In 2001 the Canada Pavilion featured *The Paradise Institute* by Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller (see *Canada World View*, Issue 12, p. 10). The work won the Biennale's Special Award—a first for Canada—plus the Benesse Prize. Cardiff is known internationally for her “audio walks”; in these installations, visitors move physically through a narrative composed of sounds and story fragments. In *The Paradise Institute*, she and Miller created a hybrid of video, audio, sculpture and performance. The installation challenges perceptions and blurs the line between reality and fiction.

Another prominent Canadian at Venice two years ago was Jeff Wall,

recipient of the 2002 Hasselblad Foundation International Award in Photography. Wall has an outstanding body of work—rich, meticulously composed photographic images framed in back-lit boxes. The compositions appear both modern and reminiscent of 19th-century genre painting.

Canada's official representative at the 2003 Biennale will be Jana Sterbak of Montreal, Quebec, who burst on the scene in 1991 with her notorious *Vanitas: Flesh Dress for an Albino Anorectic*. Made of raw meat, the dress sparked controversy when it was displayed at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. At this year's Biennale Sterbak will present *Through*

Another Eye. This is the working title for a multi-screen video installation that chronicles the adventures of Stanley, a young terrier, in Venice and on the banks of the St. Lawrence River.

Canadian artists appear not only in Venice but at similar events in Istanbul, São Paulo and Sydney, as well as at festivals and exhibitions around the world. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) helps them participate through the Visual and Media Arts Program run by its Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division. The program provides support on a number of levels, including the presentation of Canadian contemporary art

Oka Spirit Power (1990), by Alberta artist Jane Ash Poiras. This was one of the works in a 1997 travelling exhibition, *Transitions: Contemporary Canadian Indian and Inuit Art*, sponsored by DFAIT and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. *Transitions* was also shown at Mexico's 2002 Cervantino Festival.



exhibitions abroad, international career development, artist sponsorship for international events, preparatory tours for Canadian experts, and familiarization visits to Canada by foreign art experts, curators and museum directors.

Some individual missions themselves organize exhibitions of Canadian artists. The missions in Paris, London, Tokyo and Washington have professional art galleries that schedule programs on an annual basis, often in partnership with commercial and public art galleries or festival organizers. And although they have no art galleries, the Canadian missions in New York, Los Angeles, Berlin and Mexico City actively promote Canadian art through their cultural diplomacy programs. They work in close partnership with local institutions and leaders in the field. Recently, for instance, the Canadian Embassy in Berlin helped organize a mini-festival of Michael Snow's work (film, audio

and books) in conjunction with local contemporary art galleries.

Under the Visual and Media Arts Program, a 2002 touring exhibition brought to Britain and the United States the work of eight young Canadian artists: Geoffrey Farmer, Brian Jungen, Myfanwy MacLeod, Euan Macdonald, Luanne Martineau, Damian Moppett, Shannon Oksanen and Kevin Schmidt. Titled *Hammertown*, the show was organized by the Contemporary Art Gallery in Vancouver, British Columbia, in collaboration with the Fruitmarket Gallery in Edinburgh, Scotland, where it opened in October. This was the first opportunity for these artists' works to be displayed in a thematically related format outside Canada.

The *Hammertown* artists transform fragments of consumer and popular culture—products, media, film and television, social history—into their own personal, socially charged art objects. For example, in *Prototype for a New Understanding* (1999), Vancouver artist Brian Jungen draws on his Aboriginal background: the work is a series of masks reminiscent of traditional Northwest Coast Indian designs but made entirely of Nike running shoes.

Geoffrey Farmer's installation *Trailer* (2002), shown in the exhibition *Hammertown* (Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool, U.K.) (courtesy Catriona Jeffries Gallery, Vancouver)



The video work of Euan Macdonald draws attention to the trivial occurrences of everyday life, in the process giving them a heroic character. Luanne Martineau's sculptural installation draws on an early 20th-century comic book to examine Canadian attitudes toward ethnicity and race. In *Hammertown*, Geoffrey Farmer exhibited *Trailer*—part of an ongoing project called *The Blacking Factory*, after the sweatshop where Charles Dickens laboured as a child.

The artists spotlighted in *Hammertown* represent an emerging generation of Canadians. As did the generation before them—Janet Cardiff, Jeff Wall, Geneviève Cadieux, Stan Douglas, Gathie Falk, Ken Lum, Alain Païement, Jayce Salloum and Irene Whittome—they are showing their talent to the world and building international reputations. ♣

Prototype for a New Understanding #1 (1999) (Nike Air Jordans) by Brian Jungen (not exhibited in *Hammertown*)



CREATING AN IMAGE OF CANADA

The DFAIT art collection

Prominently displayed in Canada's missions and official residences abroad are creative works by a broad spectrum of Canadian artists. They represent a spirit that transcends the words of policy making and negotiation.

Nearly 5,000 pieces make up the DFAIT fine art collection, managed by the Department's Valued Assets Management Program. Most of the collection was purchased over the years but it also includes works donated by former heads of mission and their families, corporations and private citizens—among them Maryon Pearson, wife of Lester B. Pearson.

The collection dates back to the 1930s, when some of the first donations were made, starting with works that had belonged to Peter Larkin, Canada's fifth High Commissioner to London (1922–1930). Significant acquisitions began in the 1940s but an important part of the collection dates from 1972, when over 200 works were purchased from the Canada Council.

The team of the Valued Assets Management Program consults with the DFAIT staff in a locality, as well as staff interior designers, to place works from the collection. It chooses art that is best suited to a particular architectural environment or that has a connection with the country where it will be displayed. When new facilities are built, the selection of artworks is an integral part of the design process.

In Warsaw, for example, the new Canadian Embassy has won awards (see p. 30). And making the building still more striking are 59 works of



Sunset, Lake Memphremagog (c. 1850s) (oil on canvas), by Cornelius Krieghoff—the jewel of the Warsaw Embassy Collection. A gift of the Honourable John D. Kearney.

art, including paintings, sculpture and photographs by 42 artists from Canada's different regions and cultures. The works share the theme of landscape—a focus of Canadian art since the time of the first European settlers in the 16th century. Included are sculpture and tapestries by Polish-Canadians Krystyna Sadowska (a gift of the Canadian Polish Congress) and Joanna Staniszkis. Other works are by David Alexander, Terry Fenton and Greg Hardy (all of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan), Tom Hopkins

(Prince Edward Island), Bill Rose (Newfoundland), Stan Denniston (British Columbia), Marlene Creates (Newfoundland), and Michel Gaboury, the Groupe Agri-Culturel and Lorraine Gilbert (all of Quebec). The jewel is *Sunset, Lake Memphremagog*—a painting from the mid-19th century by Cornelius Krieghoff, one of the foremost recorders of traditional life in Quebec.

Krieghoff is among the earliest artists in the DFAIT collection. Also represented are figures active from the

continued on page 31

A LITERATURE OF OUR OWN

In both official languages, literature is thriving in Canada, with a fast-growing readership at home and abroad. Helping in this growth has been assistance from the Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and from the Canada Council for the Arts. They have provided support for travel, translation and trade fair promotion, enabling Canadian authors to gain exposure and recognition around the globe. The result has been a reputation for excellence.

In English Canada, local authors used to be overshadowed by more famous writers from Britain or the United States. Now they themselves cast a long shadow. Of the six nominees for the 2002 Man Booker Prize, for example, three were Canadian: Yann Martel, Rohinton Mistry and Carol Shields. The winner was the 39-year-old Martel, of Montreal, Quebec. His *Life of Pi* was described by Britain's Manchester *Guardian* as an "edge-of-seat adventure" and an "extraordinary, one-off achievement."

Shields and Mistry are both repeat Booker nominees, while Michael Ondaatje won the prize in 1992 for *The English Patient*, later an Oscar-winning film. And then there is Margaret Atwood, who received a Booker in 2000 for *The Blind Assassin*; her works have been translated into 20 languages. Of equal stature is Timothy Findley, a Chevalier of France's Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, who died in 2002. All have received travel and translation grants from DFAIT and the Canada Council for the Arts.

In French Canada, writers have been at the forefront of the extraordinary awakening of the past half-century. Among the major

names: Anne Hébert (winner of the 1982 Prix Fémina), Marie-Claire Blais (winner of the 1966 Prix Médicis), Roch Carrier (currently National Librarian of Canada), Victor-Lévy Beaulieu, novelist-dramatist Michel Tremblay (an Officer of France's Ordre des Arts et des Lettres), Acadian Antonine Maillet (the first non-citizen of France to win the Prix Goncourt in 1979) and many more. Most federal support for French authors has been channelled through the Government of Quebec, but DFAIT has helped particularly with travel and translation expenses.

Touring the globe

Writers can gain international exposure by attending launches for translations of their works, going on promotional tours and reading at book festivals. DFAIT provides travel grants to help authors attend those events.

Such a grant helped Yann Martel travel to Britain in May 2002 to attend the launch of the U.K. edition of *Life of Pi*. A second grant took him to the Edinburgh International Book Festival (the world's largest) in August. As a result of the exposure and the Booker win, foreign-language rights to *Life of Pi* have so far been

sold to publishers in Germany, Greece, the Netherlands and Italy.

Canada was a featured country at Edinburgh in 2002, and DFAIT provided travel grants to a number of other authors. Among them: Michael Crummey, a Newfoundlander now living in Kingston, Ontario; Andrew Pyper and Michael Redhill, based in Toronto, Ontario; Newfoundland novelist Wayne Johnston; and children's author Irene Watts of Vancouver, British Columbia.

Another Canadian reading at the Edinburgh Festival was Alistair MacLeod, a sensation in Britain for his poignant writing about life on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. His first novel, *No Great Mischief*, won the 2001 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, which at £100,000 is the largest literary prize in the world (see *Canada World View*, Issue 12, pp. 10–11). Later in 2001, DFAIT assistance enabled MacLeod to participate in Ireland's Kilkenny Arts Festival. A further grant helped him travel to Lyon, France, in 2002 for readings from his work after the French publication of *No Great Mischief*.

Six Canadians are among the 125 authors nominated for this year's



Carol Shields



Michel Tremblay



Alice Munro



Timothy Findley



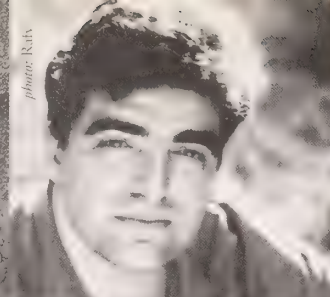
Anne Hébert



Michael Ondaatje



Marie-Claire Blais



Nino Ricci



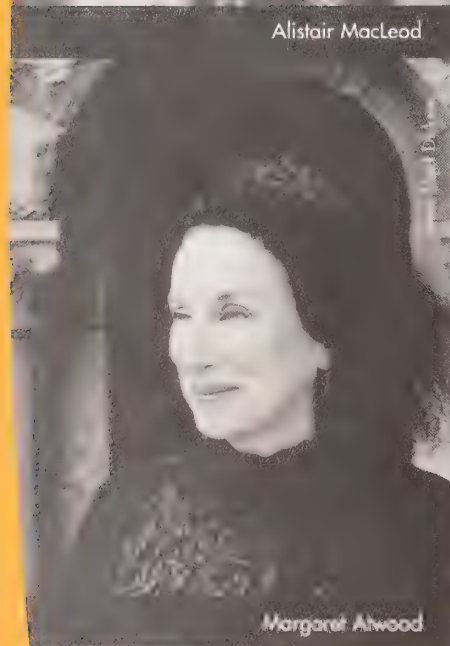
Nicole Brossard



Rohinton Mistry



Alistair MacLeod



Margaret Atwood



Yann Martel

International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award; the winner will be announced in Dublin in May.

In 2001, Montreal poet and essayist Anne Carson became the first Canadian and first woman to win the T.S. Eliot Prize—a £10,000 award for the best work of new poetry published in the United Kingdom and Ireland—for her collection *The Beauty of the Husband*. With assistance from DFAIT, in 2002 Carson travelled to England to deliver the T.S. Eliot Lecture at the Poetry International festival.

A travel grant helped Quebec poet and playwright Denise Boucher attend a poetry festival in Brugge, Belgium, in 2002—the only representative from Canada. When 25-year-old Chloé Cinq-Mars of Montreal won third prize in a short story contest in France last spring, she was able to travel there for the launch of the resulting publication. DFAIT provided assistance for Canadians to attend the *Marché de la poésie* in Paris in June 2002; participating were poets Serge Patrice Thibodeau, Antonio D'Alfonso, Paul-Marie Lapointe and Michel Thérien. Funding also helped New Brunswick's Herménégilde Chiasson to attend a concurrent event in his honour at the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris. And last fall a grant enabled Franco-Ontarian author François-Xavier Simard to take part in a program at the Cultural Centre marking 50 years of television broadcasting in Canada.

Canadian writers of diverse backgrounds have increased their international exposure thanks to DFAIT support. In 2002 sales in India boomed for a reprint of *Shahnaz*, a novel by Indo-Canadian author Hiro Boga McIlwraith, first published in 2000 in Canada; a travel grant helped the author visit India for readings. Chinese-Canadian Wayson Choy attended the Hong Kong Book Fair with a travel grant in 2002, while Jamaican-born science fiction writer Nalo Hopkinson received grants to go to the United States and France in 2001. African-Canadian poet George Elliott Clarke went to Barcelona, Spain, for the 18th International Poetry Festival and to Venice for the production of his play *Whylah Falls*. Based on his original poetic novel—which is one of the best-selling Canadian poetry books—this is the story of a mythic black community in Nova Scotia in the 1930s.

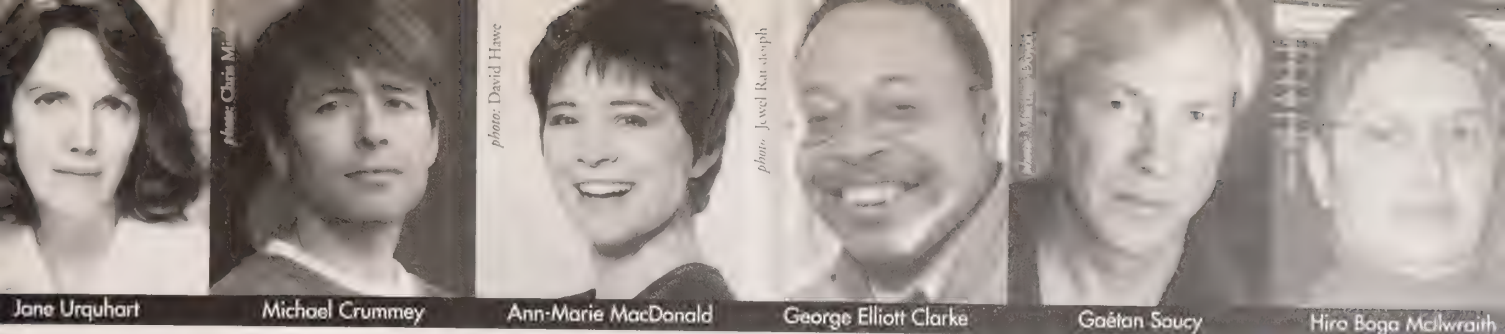
DFAIT assists Canadian authors indirectly by sponsoring literary events. Through the Consulate General in Sydney, Australia, the Department supports Adelaide Writers' Week, where Anita Rau Badami, Michael Ondaatje and Jane Urquhart read from their works in March 2002. The Department also supported a spring 2002 conference at Western Washington University in the U.S. state of Washington, with a focus on Aboriginal and Asian women in Canada. The conference was organized by Canadian First Nations storyteller, writer and poet Lee Maracle, on the

photo: K&S

photo: Germaine Beaulieu

photo: F. Mistry

photo: Canadian Press / AP



staff of the university; participants included writers J.B. Joe (a Ditidaht playwright) and Shirley Stirling (a Nlakapmux), both from British Columbia.

From Arabic to Ukrainian: Canadian writers in translation

Without translation, the international presence of Canadian authors would be limited, to say the least. The bigger foreign publishers can afford translation costs; smaller publishers, which often discover emerging talent, need assistance. They can find it with the International Translation Program, shared by the Canada Council for the Arts and DFAIT; this covers 50 percent of foreign translation costs. In place since 1987, the program is one of the most effective collaborations for helping Canadian writers reach new markets and, more generally, for promoting Canadian literature abroad. Many other countries have modelled programs on it—including the Netherlands, Ireland and Denmark.

Western Europe (particularly Germany and, more recently, Italy) tends to be the area of greatest success for Canadian literature, although 10 percent of all translations under the program are now being undertaken in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic. Since 1995, the program has funded more than 500 translations, with 96 of those in 2001–02 alone—a sign of the increased popularity, and successful promotion, of Canadian writers abroad.

Under the program in 2002, for example, Yann Martel's *Life of Pi* was translated into German and Latvian. Rohinton Mistry's *Family Matters* into Norwegian and Spanish, Anne Michaels' *Fugitive Pieces* into Russian, Michael Redhill's *Martin Sloane* into Dutch, and Michel Tremblay's classic play *Les Belles-sœurs* into Arabic.

Over the past two decades, translations have spectacularly increased the profile of Canadian literature abroad. Ann-Marie MacDonald, Gaétan Soucy, Marie-Claire Blais, Anne Hébert, Margaret Laurence, Alice Munro, Nicole Brossard, Yves Thériault and many other writers have been discovered on the international scene thanks to the translation of one or more of their works through this program.

One winner of the Governor General's Award (1993) translates her own works. Originally from Calgary, Alberta, Nancy Huston has lived in Paris since 1973. She began writing in French because she found it more liberating to use than her native English. Now she writes in both languages. She is becoming as well known in Canada as she is in her adopted home, where she has won several top literary prizes.

Yet another Governor General's Award winner (1990) is Nino Ricci, who received critical—and popular—acclaim for his first novel, *Lives of the Saints*. This is a close-up look at life in a small Italian village. The book has been widely translated, and Ricci's novels are as eagerly read in Italy as they are in Canada.

Trade fairs: securing foreign rights

Book fairs are leading venues for promoting Canadian works internationally and securing foreign language rights. DFAIT provides travel funding for Canadian literary agents and publishers to attend major international events. Among them: the Salon du Livre in Paris; the Salon international du livre, de la presse et du multimédia in Geneva; the Frankfurt Book Fair, the world's largest with over 10,000 participants; the Bologna Children's Book Fair, the world's leading children's publishing event; the London Book Fair, the biggest fair for English-language publishing; the Beijing Book Fair; and BookExpo America. This year, Canada will be the featured country at the Turin Book Fair in Italy.

In 2002, DFAIT helped numerous agents and publishers attend book fairs on behalf of Canadian authors. It provided assistance for the Helen Heller Agency and the Bukowski Agency to go to Frankfurt, the Transatlantic Literary Agency to Bologna and Frankfurt, Newfoundland and Labrador's Creative Book Publishing to London, and Quebec publisher Éditions de la Paix to the Guadalajara Book Fair in Mexico.

Publishers from around the world attend these fairs. They can see first hand the quality of Canadian writing, and can seize the opportunity to publish it for the enjoyment of readers everywhere. ♣

CANADA'S CULTURAL AMBASSADORS

Vancouver's
Kokoro Dance

Canada has a flourishing cultural sector, with strong institutions, dynamic industries and world-class, internationally recognized artists. The Government of Canada invests in promoting culture just as it invests in other activities that benefit its citizens. And on the front line are the cultural officers of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), who ensure that Canadian culture is a visible part of our country's image around the world.

Cultural trade: the Trade Routes program

One of the latest investments in Canadian culture is a program called Trade Routes, launched last November by International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew and Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps. Trade Routes takes its place alongside other export initiatives for Canada's arts and cultural sector. The program complements the multi-sectoral tool kit of export support programs

managed by Team Canada Inc partners, including DFAIT and Industry Canada.

Administered by Canadian Heritage, Trade Routes is an innovative, market-driven initiative specifically designed to facilitate the international business development needs of Canada's multi-sectoral arts and cultural exporters. It focuses

With \$5 billion in goods and services exports in 2000 alone, Canada's arts and cultural sector is unquestionably a star performer on the international trade scene. Between 1996 and 2000, goods exports in the sector jumped by 50 percent and exports of services rose by 30 percent; that has made arts and culture one of the fastest-growing sectors in the Canadian economy, ranking third in terms of exports. Under Trade Routes, arts and culture specialists have joined the regular trade commissioner teams at DFAIT missions in New York, Los Angeles, Singapore, Paris and London. They also work in the International Trade Centres in Vancouver (British Columbia), Winnipeg (Manitoba), Toronto (Ontario), Montreal (Quebec), Halifax (Nova Scotia) and St. John's (Newfoundland). The specialists have one specific job mandate: to help Canada's cultural industries take full advantage of rapidly expanding international business opportunities.

Other tools for promoting cultural trade

Outside of Trade Routes, DFAIT and its Team Canada Inc partners—particularly the departments of Canadian Heritage and Industry—

have long been engaged in export promotion for Canada's arts and culture sector. They support activities in Aboriginal cultural industries, book publishing and literature, contemporary crafts, film and television, multimedia, performing arts, sound recording, and visual arts.

In addition, DFAIT's Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division offers financial assistance to professional Canadian artists and cultural organizations to help them showcase their work abroad. And the Division provides policy guidance to DFAIT, recommending ways to increase the impact of Canadian cultural events abroad and to win more international exposure for Canada and Canadian artists.

To provide a wide range of programs and services, DFAIT's cultural sector specialists can hook into an international network that includes the Division as well as embassies, high commissions and consulates. The officers are trained to provide foreign market information, market intelligence and trade development tools; they can organize trade missions and develop export strategies to help the Canadian arts and cultural community cultivate international ties.



Poster announcing 2002 performances of the Susie Arioli Swing Band and the François Bourassa Trio in Beijing, China

on small and medium-sized enterprises, including Aboriginal, women and young exporters.

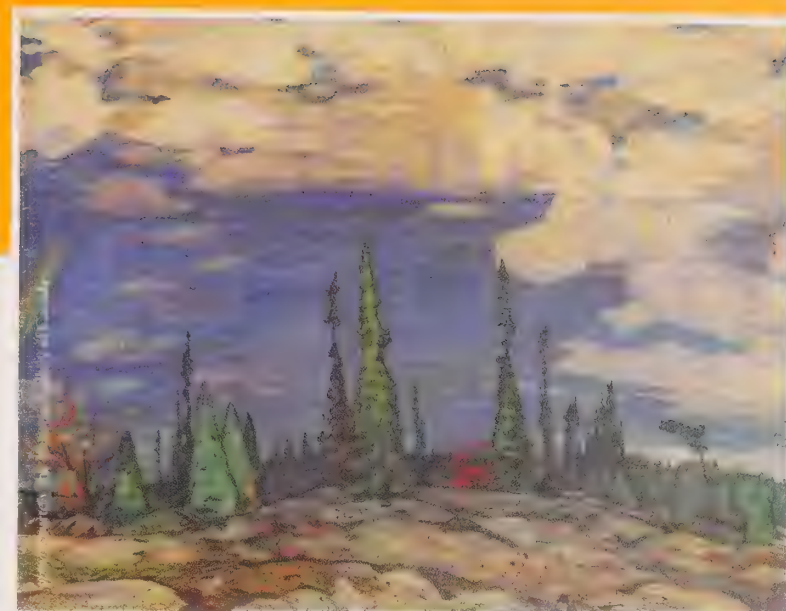
Further, DFAIT manages the Program for Export Market Development; it aims to increase export sales of Canadian goods and services—including arts and culture—by sharing the costs of international marketing activities with industry associations.

Now, with the addition of Trade Routes to the tool kit, Canada's arts and culture sector can expect even better reviews from the international business community.

Projecting the face of Canada abroad

Cultural officers in Canadian embassies and consulates play a key part in projecting the face of Canada abroad. Their focus is local: they understand markets; they work tirelessly to organize appearances of Canadian artists and creators; and they have ties with festivals and arts organizations in the area where they are stationed. Their expertise and efforts ensure that Canada's cultural image reaches audiences throughout the world.

A good example is provided by the Canadian Embassy in Beijing. "Many Chinese agencies and institutions have expressed interest in working with Canadians and initiating partnerships and exchanges," says Wang Qi, Public Affairs Coordinator at the Embassy. "The first visit of the Canada Council for the Arts to China in 2002 was hosted by the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, and resulted in a memorandum of understanding between the



A.Y. Jackson, *Terre Sauvage* (1913) (oil on canvas), from the collection of the National Gallery of Canada (courtesy Naomi Jackson Groves). This was the signature piece of the exhibition *Terre Sauvage: The Canadian Landscape and the Group of Seven*, which toured China in 2001.

two organizations that calls for the participation and exchange of artists in residence, presentations, exhibitions, and festivals organized in the two countries."

The Embassy attaches a very high priority to promoting Canadian arts and culture in China. For instance, with the assistance of DFAIT and the National Gallery of Canada, in 2001 a China tour was organized for the exhibition *Terre Sauvage: The Canadian Landscape and the Group of Seven*. In May 2002, the Embassy organized two performances of contemporary music by young Canadians: soprano Janice Jackson and Trio Fibonacci. Last September, two Montreal jazz groups—the Susie Arioli Swing Band and the Juno Award-winning François Bourassa Trio with André Leroux—were featured in one of Beijing's major theatre complexes. Last October, the Snell Thouin Project and the Beijing Modern Dance Company co-produced *Bone*; this was a landmark in creative collaboration between Canadian and Chinese artists and performers.

In recent years the Canadian Embassy has organized four retrospectives and screenings of contemporary

Canadian films in Beijing. And in Shanghai, every year the Consulate General ensures that Canadian films are included in the biggest Chinese film festival—the Shanghai International Film Festival.

This is typical of the work of cultural officers in many major cities. Pam Johnson, Cultural Affairs Officer in Los Angeles, comments, "As a result of sending presenters from California to the various showcases and festivals in Canada, a number of troupes tour this region on a regular basis, among them Green Thumb Theatre from Vancouver, Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster and several dance companies. There is also a steady stream of Canadian artists appearing at large and small stages throughout the region."

In Italy, Cultural Affairs Officer Elena Solari coordinates efforts with local institutions to bring Canadian artists and performers to as many events as possible. She says, "The Embassy has close relationships with the major international cultural events, such as the Venice Biennale, the Architecture Biennale, the Venice Film Festival and the Romaeuropa Festival. Repeated invitations have

For information on Canadian participation in international cultural events in 2003, go to www.dfaa-maei.gc.ca/tna-nac/2003-sa.asp, click on "Archives" and search for the title "Cultural Events Calendar 2003."

For information on appearances abroad by Canadian artists, visit www.dfaa-maei.gc.ca/department/focea/culture2003-en.asp.

gone to Marie Chouinard, Robert Lepage, Janet Cardiff, La La La Human Steps, and other Canadian artists and groups. Mordecai Richler,

David Cronenberg and Atom Egoyan have become cult figures here. They and many others have benefited from DFAIT support."

Canadian artists are showcasing their work throughout the rest of Europe, with the help of cultural officers in various locations. For example, throughout 2003 the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris will feature major exhibitions by Canadian artists Marian Penner Bancroft, Sylvie Readman, Sorel Cohen and John Howe. From February to May, Montreal-based DynamO Theatre, which tells stories through acrobatic movement, is staging its productions *Lili* and *Mur-Mur (The Wall)* in

France, Belgium, Spain and Britain. DynamO has performed for over 1 million people around the world. Geared to pre-teens and their families, *Lili* is a humorous and sensitive look at a girl's journey into adolescence. And in February and March, contemporary dance soloist Paul-André Fortier was in Germany, Scotland and France, performing *Tensions*—his most accomplished and soulful work to date.

These are only a few of the Canadian artists presenting Canada to the world. And supporting them week after week are DFAIT officers serving as ambassadors for Canada's vibrant culture. ♣



A scene from *Lili*, performed by Montreal's DynamO Theatre

Canada leads efforts toward New International Instrument on Cultural Diversity

Canadians value their culture and seek to preserve it. At the same time they want to experience the rich variety of global culture, and they want their cultural products to be able to reach audiences abroad. These priorities guide our country's stance in international trade negotiations. In recent years Canada has been working bilaterally and multilaterally toward a New International Instrument on Cultural Diversity. This would set out clear ground rules enabling our own and other countries to maintain cultural policies, while respecting the rules of the international trading system and ensuring markets for cultural exports.

Together, DFAIT and the Department of Canadian Heritage are leading Canada's efforts, with considerable progress achieved thus far. Canada is chairing the Working Group at the

International Network on Cultural Policy—an informal forum of culture ministers, which has developed a draft Instrument text to be used for further international discussion. In addition, the Cultural Industries Sectoral Advisory Group on International Trade (a group that provides advice to Canada's Minister for

International Trade) has produced a draft Instrument text and discussion paper, posted on the DFAIT Web site. Canada has also been advancing the Instrument in forums such as the G8, UNESCO, La Francophonie, and the Organization of American States (including the Summit of the Americas).

For more information:

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
www.dfaa-maei.gc.ca/tna-nac/diversity_culture-en.asp

Department of Canadian Heritage
www.canadianheritage.gc.ca/index_e.cfm

Click on "International," then "International Affairs"; select "New International Instrument on Cultural Diversity"

International Network on Cultural Policy
www.incp-ripc.org

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S

state visits highlight Canadian culture

Culture was the focus when Governor General Adrienne Clarkson travelled to Argentina, Chile and Germany for state visits in 2001. Accompanying her and her husband, writer John Ralston Saul, were prominent Canadian novelists, poets, playwrights, musicians, filmmakers, dancers and visual artists, as well as representatives of some of Canada's leading cultural institutions.

The visits featured a series of public discussions, providing the centrepiece for cultural programs in each of the three countries.

"Culture is the expression of who we are as people; it's what gives life meaning and context," said Madame Clarkson. "These discussions were open and focused on themes about how we arrived as countries to this place and time, what has shaped our culture and national psyches, and what role culture plays in our societies, now and in the future."

Of the delegates accompanying Madame Clarkson and Mr. Saul to Argentina and Chile in spring 2001, almost half came from various areas of Canadian cultural life. Among them were Argentinian-Canadian writer Alberto Manguel and Governor General's Literary Award recipients David Adams Richards, Robert Lalonde, Herménégilde Chiasson and Émile Martel. Visual artists included Susan Point of the West Coast Salish and Rafael Goldchain, a Chilean-Canadian. Representing the publishing industry were heads of leading Canadian houses. Also on hand were directors

of major Canadian cultural institutions: Pierre Théberge of the National Gallery of Canada, Roch Carrier of the National Library of Canada and Victor Rabinovitch of the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

The delegation to Germany included the cutting edge of Canadian culture: installation artists Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller (see p. 18); filmmakers Atom Egoyan (see p. 13) and Don McKellar; composer Alexina Louie; and playwright Michel Marc Bouchard, who has already made his mark in German theatre.

Present on both state visits were many Aboriginal artists and leaders. They received a warm welcome — particularly in Germany, where there is great interest in Canadian Aboriginal art and culture. In Dresden, Berlin and Düsseldorf, playwright and musician Tomson Highway (see p. 11) took part in roundtables on cultural identity in literature. And at the Arsenal



Above: Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, with German President Johannes Rau, in Berlin at the start of her 2001 state visit to Germany. She is wearing a coat designed by Dene fashion designer D'Arcy Moses of the Northwest Territories — a member of the delegation to Germany.



Madame Clarkson and John Ralston Saul speak with children in Santiago, Chile, during a 2001 state visit.

Theatre in Berlin, Zacharias Kunuk's *Atanarjuat* (see p. 15) was screened during a week-long "Imagine Canada" film festival.

Also featured at "Imagine Canada" were works by Atom Egoyan and Don McKellar. Madame Clarkson participated in panel discussions with the two directors after the screening of their films. ♣

Quebec school offers international program

Since 1999, secondary students at Collège Saint-Bernard in the town of Drummondville, Quebec, have been able to choose an unusual study stream: international education. In addition to the general requirements for a high school diploma, participating students must achieve proficiency in French, English and Spanish; they learn cultural sensitivity; they follow an enriched and wide-ranging curriculum; they do community work; and they undertake a personal project requiring research. Overseen by Quebec's Société des écoles d'éducation internationale, the program promotes self-learning, openness to other cultures, self-esteem, respect for the environment, creativity and familiarity with technology.

Cultural exchange is a priority at Collège Saint-Bernard. In March 2002, for example, 16 students travelled to Edmonton, Alberta, to join in the celebrations at the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie. In May, it was their turn to host youth from Alberta for a

week. Other recent exchanges took students from the college to Prince Edward Island and Europe (England, France and Belgium). In 2003-04, destinations will include France, Peru and Italy.

But the students don't have to leave home to experience other cultures. For the past two years, the college has held a week of cross-cultural activities in February. Throughout the week, music from around the world can be heard at lunch hour, and the cafeteria serves cuisine from different countries. Students also lead discussions about their lands of origin. With some 20 nations represented in the student body, the college has a wealth of resources on which it can draw.

The college's reputation has drawn the attention of Canadians in leadership positions. In March 2002 the 60 students enrolled in the international program met with Denis Paradis, Secretary of State for Latin America, Africa and La Francophonie. They have also been addressed by Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion, and have met with Claude Laverdure and Jacques Bilodeau, Canada's past and present ambassadors to Belgium.

For more information, visit the College's Web site: www.csb.qc.ca (French only)

Five years of the Ottawa Convention

There were celebrations across Canada and around the world in 2002 on the fifth anniversary of a historic treaty banning anti-personnel mines.



photo: Denis Drever

At a mine action symposium held in Ottawa late last year to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Ottawa Convention, Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham welcomes Cambodian landmine survivor Tun Channareth—an ambassador of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, who in 1997 accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the Campaign together with Coordinator Jody Williams.

The Ottawa Convention was the outcome of efforts by national governments and civil society organizations to establish a total ban on the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines, and on their destruction. It was opened for signature in December 1997. As of January 20, 2003, a total of 131 states have ratified or acceded to it, making this the most quickly ratified disarmament treaty in history.

To mark the anniversary, from November 29 to December 1 Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham hosted an international mine action symposium in Ottawa. Organized by Mines Action Canada, the symposium was called "Without Reservation—Addressing the Challenges of Achieving a Landmine-Free World." Participating were governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Canada also renewed the Canadian Landmine Fund, committing \$72 million over the next five years to support global mine action programs.



Students of Collège Saint-Bernard on an exchange trip to Edmonton, Alberta

The ongoing funding will ensure that Canada continues to lead international efforts toward fully implementing the Ottawa Convention, with the aim of achieving a landmine-free world.

For more information, visit:
www.mines.gc.ca

Out of Muskoka **A memoir by** **James Bartleman**

In February 1999, Canadian High Commissioner to South Africa James Bartleman had come to Cape Town for what he expected to be a memorable event: retiring President Nelson Mandela's farewell address to the country's legislature. What awaited him was an unforgettable experience of a different kind: hours before the speech, he was viciously mugged in his hotel room. The assault unleashed flashbacks to the discrimination he and his Aboriginal family had faced during his childhood in Ontario's Muskoka District.

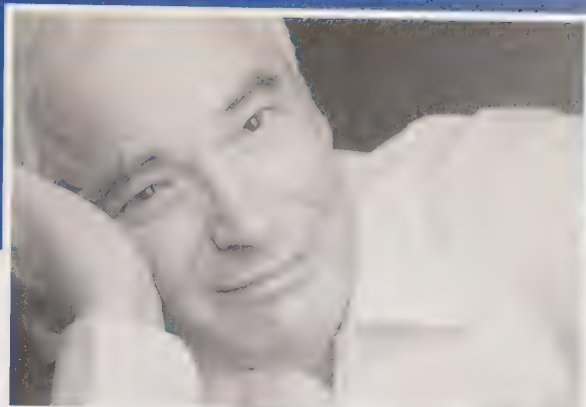
To help work through his post-traumatic stress and depression, Mr. Bartleman decided to write down his recollections. The result is a compelling memoir entitled *Out of Muskoka*. In it Mr. Bartleman reflects on the unenlightened attitudes of the past, plus his more than 35 years in the Canadian Foreign Service.

***Identity isn't given once
and for all; it is built up
and changes throughout a
person's lifetime.***

Lebanese-French novelist Amin Maalouf

The son of a Scottish father and an Aboriginal mother, James Bartleman was born in 1939 in Orillia, Ontario. A member of the Mnjikaning First Nation, he grew up in an abandoned shack in the Muskoka town of Port Carling. The support of a wealthy American benefactor changed his life, enabling him to get an education. In 1963 he earned a B.A. with honours in history from the University of Western Ontario. After travelling in Europe, he joined the Canadian Foreign Service.

In 1972, Mr. Bartleman opened Canada's first diplomatic mission to the newly independent People's Republic of Bangladesh. He went on to serve in progressively more senior posts, including High Commissioner to Cyprus, Australia and South Africa, as well as Ambassador to Israel, Cuba, the North Atlantic Council of NATO and the European Union (see interview in *Canada World View*, Issue 12, pp. 4-5).



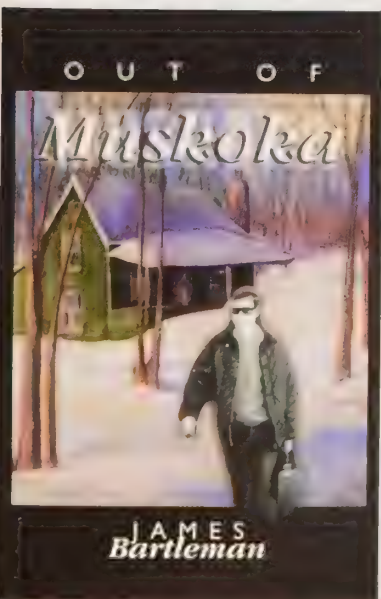
James Bartleman

Out of Muskoka is the story of a man who had a highly successful diplomatic career, was posted around the world and met some of the most charismatic leaders of our time. But this is also the journey of a person of mixed heritage who overcame poverty and racial discrimination to reach the highest levels of public service. Here in Canada, from 1994 to 1998 James Bartleman served as Foreign Policy Adviser to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet for Foreign and Defence Policy. In 2002 he was named Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

Writing this memoir enabled Mr. Bartleman to finally reconcile the two parts of his being—Aboriginal and white—and to come to terms with the discrimination he had suffered in the past.

The book includes an afterword by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Gaëtan Lavertu. Proceeds from its sale will benefit the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, a charity that has provided over \$14 million in scholarships to young Aboriginal students.

James Bartleman, *Out of Muskoka*.
Manotick, Ontario: Penumbra Press,
October 2002. 144 pages.
ISBN 1894131312. Hardcover, \$29.95.



Canadian Embassy building in Warsaw wins awards

For the second year in a row, the new Canadian Embassy building in Warsaw, completed in 2001, has won a prestigious architectural award. This past October, the City of Warsaw named it the Best Public Building of 2002. And in 2001, the English-language bi-monthly magazine *Polish Business News* named it Best Building of the Year.

"I want to extend my sincere congratulations to the Canadian design team at WZMH Architects of Toronto on their tremendous achievement in designing this unique representation of Canada and our relationship with Poland," said Minister Graham last October 25.

The building's design captures Canada's character. Much of the façade, for example, is clear glass. During the day, sun streams through

the windows and skylight. At night, lights give passersby a dramatic view of the two-storey Canada Room within. Either way, the design reflects the Canadian ideals of transparency and openness.

To take a virtual tour of the Embassy, visit: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/poland/tour1-en.asp

Foreign Policy Dialogue launched

On January 22, Minister Graham invited all Canadians to participate in national consultations on future priorities and directions in Canadian foreign policy. To guide discussions, the Minister released a paper entitled *A Dialogue on Foreign Policy*. This offers an overview of current issues and challenges, and poses a series of questions to which Canadians are invited to respond.

The consultations, which began in March, include town hall meetings and input from citizens, parliamentarians and experts, as well as an Internet discussion forum. The discussions will end on May 1, and in June the Minister will report to Canadians on the responses received.

For more information, visit: www.foreign-policy-dialogue.ca

You can also obtain a copy of the discussion paper by calling 1-800-267-8376 (toll-free), or by writing to: A Dialogue on Foreign Policy, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2.

Young Canadians intern in the world's museums

Last September, 10 young Canadians set off to work in 10 different institutions in New Zealand, Australia and Britain. Their positions had been arranged under the Canadian Museums Association (CMA) project of DFAIT's Youth International Internship Program (YIIP).

Among recent CMA project participants: Robin Smith, assistant at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Surrey, U.K.; Jennifer Ellison, research assistant at the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney, Camperdown, Australia; Rob Armour, public programs designer for the Forrester Gallery, Oamaru, New Zealand; and Brenda Manweiler, assistant curator at the Queen Elizabeth II Army Memorial Museum, Waiouru, New Zealand.

YIIP operates in partnership with private- and public-sector, non-governmental and international organizations. It builds international links and furthers cultural initiatives, while providing once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for Canadian youth. Similar placements exist for international trade and global issues projects.

For more information:
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/interns



The main entrance of the award-winning new Canadian Embassy building in Warsaw, Poland

ABORIGINAL FILMMAKERS

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an Aboriginal-owned and -operated film and television company. For a half-hour drama called *Moccasin Flats*, Big Soul trained 50 Aboriginal youth in Regina, Saskatchewan, in all aspects of filmmaking both behind and in front of the camera.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade supports the work of many of Canada's Aboriginal filmmakers. Among them:

- Alanis Obomsawin has been chronicling Aboriginal struggles since 1967. In November 2002 she

presented a cycle of four major films in Argentina, with support from the Canadian Embassy in Buenos Aires. Her latest film—*Is the Crown at War With Us?*—was featured at Sundance. It examines the conflict over fishing rights involving the Esgenoopetitj Mi'gmaq First Nation of Burnt Church, New Brunswick.

- In 2003, the Sundance Festival screened Darlene Naponse's first feature, *Cradlesong*, described as a "musically inspired stroll through



Canada's foremost Aboriginal filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin, director of the NFB production *Is the Crown at War With Us?*

the Whitefish Lake Ojibway First Nation" in northern Ontario. A travel grant from the Department's Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion Division enabled producer Bill Huffman to attend Sundance. 🍁

CREATING AN IMAGE OF CANADA

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early 1900s to the 1930s, who helped shape Canadian art in those years: Franklin Brownell, James W. Morrice, David Milne, Group of Seven members A.Y. Jackson and Alfred Casson, and Anne Savage and Mabel May (members of the Beaver Hall Hill Group of Montreal women painters). Most of the holdings, however, span the last 50 years. They include works by artists of the 1950s and 1960s who were instrumental in bringing abstraction to Canada: Jack Bush, Paul-Émile Borduas, Kenneth Lochhead, Charles Gagnon, Yves Gaucher, Harold Town, Jacques Hurtubise and Jean-Paul Riopelle. Featured as well are well-known names in Canadian art from the

1970s to the present: Vera Frenkel, Michael Snow, Betty Goodwin, Bill Reid, Takao Tanabe, Mary Pratt, Kim Ondaatje, Guido Molinari, William Kurelek, Jean Paul Lemieux, and printmakers J.C. Heywood and Otis Tamasauskas.

Some of the works were commissioned for a particular site. An example is Kenneth Lochhead's 1970 mural for the Canadian Embassy in Warsaw. It has been re-installed in the newly rebuilt Embassy building, which opened in 2001.

Other pieces are more portable, including an outstanding collection of Inuit sculpture.

As Canada gradually gained recognition on the international



Among works displayed at the Canadian Embassy in Warsaw Poland, as part of the permanent Warsaw Embassy Collection *Hill* (2001) (acrylic on canvas), by Greg Hardy; and *Braiding Through the Trench* (1986) (acrylic on canvas), by David Alexander

stage, Canadian artists explored and expressed our country's unique identity. The DFAIT collection presents their discoveries and graphically conveys our country's place in the world. 🍁

CALENDAR

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

MAY

Canada-EU Summit
Athens, Greece

May 5
Visit of U.S. President
George W. Bush
Ottawa, Ontario

JUNE

June 1-3
G8 Summit
Evian, France

June 8-10
Organization of American States
General Assembly
Santiago, Chile

CULTURE AND CANADIAN STUDIES

APRIL

April 1-May 1
World Stage Festival
Toronto, Ontario

April 2-5
Bologna Children's Book Fair
Bologna, Italy

April 2-6
ReelWorld Film Festival
Toronto, Ontario

April 25-May 3
Journées du cinéma africain et
créole, Vues d'Afrique
Montreal, Quebec

April 25-May 4
Hot Docs (Canadian International
Documentary Festival)
Toronto, Ontario

April 25-May 4
Sprockets (Toronto International
Film Festival for Children)
Toronto, Ontario

MAY

May 1-31
CONTACT Photography Festival
Toronto, Ontario

May 9-12
Art Chicago
Chicago, U.S.A.

May 14-25
Cannes Film Festival
Cannes, France

May 15-19
Turin Book Fair
Turin, Italy

May 21-June 7
Festival de théâtre des Amériques
Montreal, Quebec

May 21-25
NewMusicWest
Vancouver, British Columbia

May 23-24
"Transculturalisms: Diversity
and Metamorphosis" (conference)
International Council for
Canadian Studies
Montreal, Quebec

May 26-June 1
Vancouver International
Children's Festival
Vancouver, British Columbia

May 28-June 1
BookExpo America
Los Angeles, U.S.A.

JUNE

June 5-7
North by Northeast Music
Festival and Conference
Toronto, Ontario

June 6-9
BookExpo Canada
Toronto, Ontario

June 8-13
Banff Television Festival
Banff, Alberta

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAYS

April 7
World Health Day

April 23
World Book and Copyright Day

May 3
World Press Freedom Day

June 5
World Environment Day

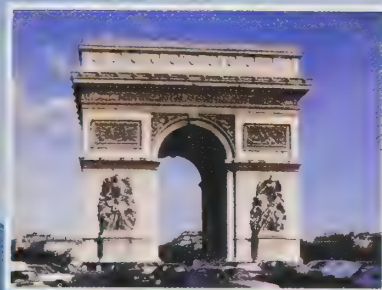
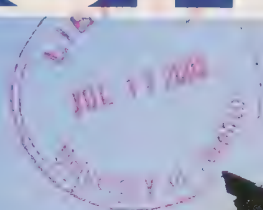
Lauri Stallings in Ballet British Columbia's
Conversation Piece

photo: David Cooper

Government
Publications

Canada World View

ISSUE 19 • SPRING 2003



Canada's Trade Goes Global

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Our cover

Some of Canada's international trading partners. Trade is important to Canada. One job in four depends on exports. Last year, Canada's total two-way trade was \$891 billion or \$2.4 billion every day.

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TRADE WORKS

Canada's exports of goods and services account for more than 40 percent of the country's economic activity, and they support an estimated one out of every four jobs. That kind of prosperity doesn't happen by accident.

In British Columbia's thriving Port of Vancouver—Canada's busiest—the rain-slick cranes work round the clock hoisting coal, automobile parts and other products on and off cargo ships at some 25 terminals. Thanks to burgeoning trade with Asia, a favourable exchange rate and excellent rail links to the rest of the continent, Vancouver now handles more cargo than any other port on the West coast of North America, including the U.S. ports of Seattle and Los Angeles.

In 2002, about 63 million tonnes of cargo passed through Vancouver, supporting some 63,000 jobs across the country and an estimated \$3.5 billion in economic output. That makes Vancouver a potent symbol of what world trade means to Canada.

In fact, when it comes to trade Canada has few equals. It easily outpaces its partners in the Group of Eight leading industrial countries (G8). Canada exports 41.1 percent of its gross domestic product (GDP); the G8 average is 17 percent. Canada imports about 37 percent of its GDP; the G8 average is 14 percent.

"Canada is a trading nation," says Pierre Pettigrew, Canada's Minister for International Trade. "But the country's prosperity is linked to our ability to facilitate that trade with the world."

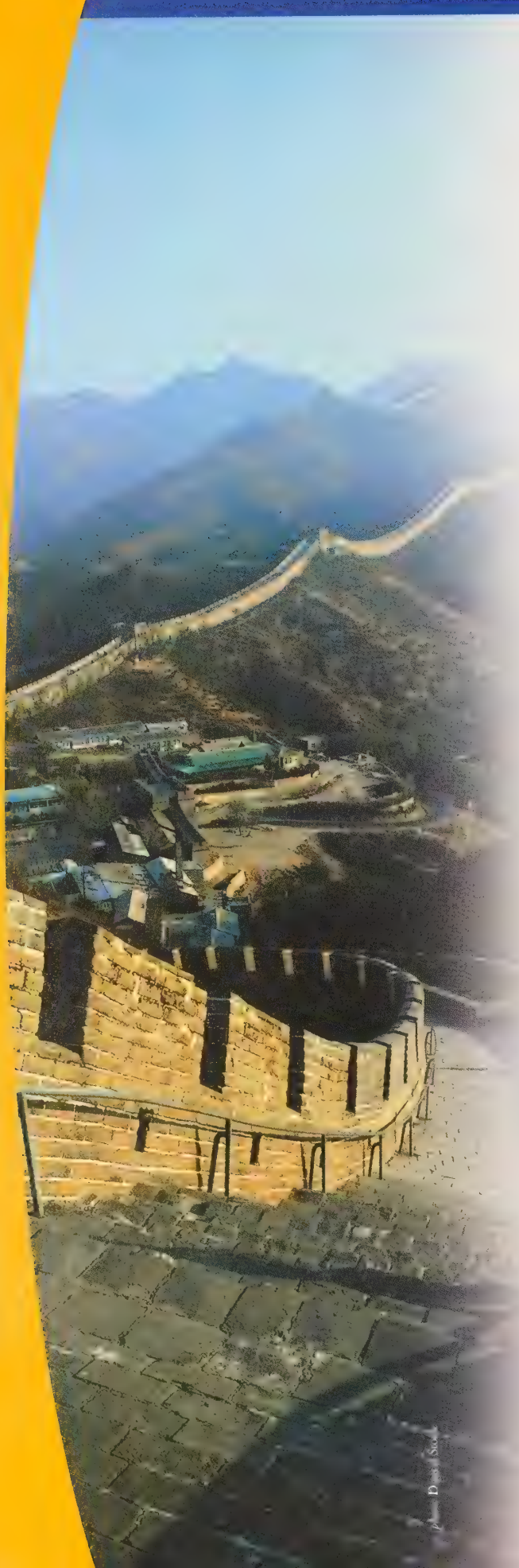
Secure and open markets, and a fair trading system based on rules—these are some of the foundation stones enabling Canada to prosper from trade. But foundations are not built by accident. It takes time and much consideration.

This is why the Government of Canada is actively engaged in trade negotiations on many fronts. In each case it has one central objective: more open, more predictable, rules-based markets anchored in the World Trade Organization (WTO)—the international agency in Geneva that deals with the rules of trade between nations.



The government also has one underlying rationale for its efforts: Trade stimulates economies and endows them with more goods, more services, more technology and more ideas.

Trade has other benefits as well. Despite some concerns about globalization, the federal government believes that trade binds nations into a system of interdependence. In this way it helps to ensure more peace and stability worldwide—a key objective of Canada's foreign policy.



In addition, a well-functioning global trading system helps advance objectives such as stricter environmental standards, improved labour standards, greater respect for human rights and increased resources to support social policies.

“By creating prosperity, trade fosters human dignity and strengthens societies here and abroad,” says Minister Pettigrew. “History has shown that, over time, trade provides the resources that enable governments to protect the environment, strengthen the social safety net and promote our core values—tolerance, compassion, generosity, democracy, the rule of law and more.”

A new era in world trade

In the last half-century the world economy has undergone a transition as fundamental as the Industrial Revolution, ushering in a new era in trade relations between countries.

At first relations were governed by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), adopted after the Second World War in 1948 by 23 of the world's trading nations.

Over the years, trading rules were hammered out in repeated rounds of international negotiations. Meanwhile global trade increased over a hundredfold. Eight rounds of negotiations lowered average industrial tariffs from 40 percent to less than 4 percent. The most recently completed round of negotiations extended from 1986 to 1994; known as the Uruguay Round, it led to the creation of the WTO in 1995.

Canada benefits significantly from an open world trading system based on clear rules and on predictable access to international markets. To sell their goods and services, Canadian companies have to be able to enter a market. The WTO allows them to do that.

The WTO is central to Canada's trade policy and its relations with its trading partners. In the new round of multilateral trade negotiations now under way (see box), Canada will keep pursuing an international framework of rules—one that provides access to growing world markets and keeps pace with changes in technology, business practices, social systems and public interests.

Len Edwards is Canada's Deputy Minister for International Trade. Speaking of the new round, he says, “On the agricultural front—one of the first two sectors being negotiated, the other being services—Canada is seeking elimination of all export subsidies as quickly as possible, reductions in trade-distorting domestic support, substantial improvements in market access for all agricultural and food products, and new disciplines for export taxes and restrictions.”

As important as it is to Canada, trade is critical to developing countries. With other WTO members, Canada is working to expand the benefits of the multilateral trading system by helping to address developing countries' concerns, and by providing more assistance to improve the capacity of poorer countries to trade.

"We can afford to cushion the blow that sometimes results from international competition; we can help our citizens get back on their feet, get training and find new work," says Minister Pettigrew. "A majority of less-developed countries do not have the capacity to do this. Many are therefore understandably wary about entering into an agreement that could overwhelm their fragile economies. We must not let their fears be realized. Trade liberalization must benefit all economies, particularly the smaller ones."

To improve access for services and industrial goods, Canada wants more open markets. Proposed new rules on the use of trade remedies and subsidies will also give the multilateral trading system greater predictability—a key contributor to Canada's economic success.

To enhance public understanding of the benefits of a multilateral trading system, says the Deputy Minister, Canada is actively promoting transparency at the WTO. Openness is fundamental to how Canada develops and implements its trade policy.

What's true internationally is true domestically: By practising transparency, federal departments and agencies involved in trade discussions and negotiations ensure that they have open and effective channels of communication with each other and with provincial and territorial governments. And with transparency, interested stakeholders can provide input on government policy, the public can keep abreast of the country's trade agenda, and information provided in timely fashion can foster and support

The Doha Development Agenda

The WTO's top decision-making body is the Ministerial Conference, composed chiefly of trade ministers from each member country. It meets at least once every two years. At the November 2001 meeting in Doha, Qatar, the ministers re-affirmed the international community's commitment to opening up trade. In demonstration of that commitment, they launched a new round of negotiations focusing on many of the concerns of developing countries. These are expressed in the Doha Development Agenda, which notably calls for still lower tariffs for the exports on which developing countries depend. And through a declaration on intellectual property and public health, the Doha meeting signalled that the WTO system allows its members to balance social and health objectives with economic goals.

photo: Donald Stampfli AP



Main entrance of the World Trade Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

debate and discussion. The result is government policy that is in the best interest of Canadians, and that has their understanding and consent.

Benefits to Canada and beyond

Canada is a major trading nation; estimates are that one job in four depends on exports. In 2002, Canada's total two-way trade in goods and services was \$891 billion, or \$2.4 billion every day. But while most foreign products enter Canada duty-free or at fairly low tariffs, some of Canada's exports are taxed as much as 67 percent.

Freer trade will benefit Canadian exporters, the vast majority of which are small and medium-sized enterprises. Canadians are world-class producers, and Canadian trade will expand, particularly in the fast-growing services sector. That will lead to increased productivity and competitiveness, and greater access to technology, investment and customers.

"Canada as a whole will benefit as well," says Len Edwards. "Open trade means more and better jobs, higher incomes, greater revenues for social programs and better prices for consumers. And in a fair, rules-based system, all countries—including developing countries—stand to benefit." 🍁

CANADA-U.S.-MEXICO TRADE RELATIONS

Getting it right

Nearly \$2 billion worth of trade crosses the Canada-U.S. border every day, and Canada-Mexico trade is worth \$15 billion a year. Getting the North American trading relationship right is a necessity, not an option.

In December 2002, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade issued a report entitled *Partners in North America: Advancing Canada's Relations with the United States and Mexico*. The report stated, "Canada is a North American nation. Getting North American relations right is the key policy imperative for Canada."

Confirming that view is Len Edwards, Deputy Minister for International Trade. He says, "Canada's trade and economic interests span the globe, so the cornerstone of our trade policy continues to be the multilateral trading system. However, North America—and, in particular, the United States—is by far our most important market and increasingly critical to our prosperity and security."

Since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) came into force on January 1, 1994, Canada has consolidated its position as the largest trading partner of the United States. Canadian purchases of U.S. goods equal purchases by all the European Union countries combined—almost 19 percent of American exports. Thirty-eight U.S. states have Canada as their largest market; that adds up to roughly \$1.2 billion in trade, every day of the year.

One of Canada's priorities is to expand its advocacy program in the United States. Len Edwards explains: "Growing economic integration means that an increasing number and range of U.S. federal, state and municipal

issues and actions have a direct and powerful impact on Canada. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade is working to improve its capacity to engage Americans at the local, regional and state levels, where the interests that drive Congressional and Administration policy are developed and articulated."

NAFTA has proven to be a resounding success for all three partners. Since its implementation, total merchandise trade between Canada, Mexico and the United States has increased by about 150 percent (from \$374 billion in 1993 to \$944 billion in 2002). Total two-way trade between Canada and Mexico has risen by 233 percent since 1993—despite a 13-percent fall in Canadian exports to Mexico in 2002.

"The NAFTA was a first because it linked two developed countries—Canada and the United States—with Mexico, a developing country," says Deputy Minister Edwards. "The ongoing success of the agreement demonstrates that freer trade and investment between developed and developing countries are beneficial for all parties, especially developing ones."

Mexico is now Canada's sixth-largest export destination and its fourth-largest source of imports. Two-way merchandise trade stood at \$15.1 billion in 2002. And Canadian direct investment in Mexico continues to grow, reaching \$4 billion in 2001.

Clearly NAFTA works—for all of North America. ♦

NAFTA OPENS DOORS

Baultar floors Mexico City's transit system

Baultar Inc. of Windsor, Quebec, is taking a beating from Mexican subway riders—and wouldn't have it any other way.

Xavier Garcia, Baultar's international marketing coordinator, says the company has been competing successfully for contracts in Mexico City's heavily used metro system since NAFTA came into force.

"We identified a real need for our resilient floor coverings in Mexico, and once NAFTA was implemented, our work there multiplied by five," says Garcia.

Gerth makes inroads south of the border

Think of trade and what comes to mind? Typically, merchandise. But equally important are the freight carriers that move the goods across borders—firms such as Gerth Transport of Kitchener, Ontario.

Although Gerth had been dealing with Mexico for years, business literally took off once NAFTA was implemented. Since 1994, the company has tripled in size.

"NAFTA enabled us to move ahead in Mexico at a much faster pace than we ever expected," says Wayne Hadath, vice-president of sales and marketing.

Testori skyrockets to U.S. success

Based in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, Testori Americas Corporation started selling its aircraft and related components south of the border—mainly through Bombardier—just before NAFTA's implementation.

President Lindo Lapegna recalls the pre-NAFTA difficulties of doing business with the United States. The agreement, he says, opened doors for Testori: "Transportation and border logistics were real headaches," he recalls. "NAFTA has brought these issues within our control, so they no longer inhibit our ability to compete."



FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS TAKES SHAPE

The North American Free Trade Agreement performed the feat of linking two developed countries with one developing one. And it worked. Now the focus is on an even more ambitious undertaking.

Some countries might be satisfied with the creation of a multilateral trading arrangement like the North American Free Trade Agreement. But not Canada.

"Strengthening North America's economic space—and, more specifically, Canada–U.S. relations—is our top priority," says Len Edwards, Deputy Minister for International Trade. But he adds, "We continue to push ahead on regional and multilateral fronts. Building on our successes, we have been encouraged to broaden trade liberalization through economic integration within the Free Trade Area of the Americas [FTAA]."

In December 1994 in Miami, the first Summit of the Americas set out the vision of a hemisphere-wide free trade area. At the April 1998 summit in Santiago, Chile, leaders of the 34 democratic countries of the Americas launched negotiations on achieving that vision.

The proposed FTAA is an integral part of the broader Summit of the Americas process. Since 1994, this has led Canada and its hemispheric partners to work closely together on improving human rights, strengthening democracy, enhancing economic opportunities and—most important—bettering the lives of all their citizens.

"The FTAA is about enhancing economic opportunities," says Deputy Minister Edwards. "It will open more markets to Canadian goods and expertise, and will contribute to economic growth throughout the hemisphere."

The goal, he says, is to create the world's largest free trade area by 2005, a hemispheric marketplace with boundless prospects. Today, this region boasts 828 million people, generating 40.7 percent of the world's wealth. Its combined GDP is \$19.7 trillion.

Canada already has a significant presence: Trade with the Americas was \$594.9 billion in 2002. But an FTAA agreement would be a tremendous boost for Canadian business, yielding multiple gains.

Rules being negotiated in the FTAA discussions will help Canadian farmers, investors and high-tech exporters alike seize opportunities in a region where many markets are still relatively unknown to Canadians.

According to the Minister for International Trade Pierre Pettigrew, 2002 was a landmark year for meeting Canada's key objectives. "With our partners, we moved closer toward consensus on an integrated draft text of the eventual FTAA agreement," he says. "We continued to make the FTAA Committee on the Participation of Civil Society an ever more effective instrument for fostering citizen participation in the FTAA process. And we achieved greater transparency in the FTAA process, enhancing the public's access to information."

More openness

At their November 2002 meeting in Quito, Ecuador, hemispheric trade ministers agreed to publicly release

the second version of the FTAA draft negotiating texts earlier than planned. This followed the decision, promoted by Canada at the 2001 FTAA Ministerial in Buenos Aires, to release the draft texts.

"Canada achieved its goals at this meeting by keeping the negotiations on track to yield benefits for Canadian exporters and consumers, as well as for the citizens of the hemisphere as a whole," says Minister Pettigrew. "The release of the latest draft FTAA texts confirms the new culture of transparency in trade negotiations, which Canada has championed."

Ministers also ensured that the FTAA negotiations will continue to contribute to the broader Summit of the Americas process, including in priority areas such as protection and conservation of the environment and promotion of labour rights. 🍁

Illustration: DFAT (U.S.) Image Bank

BUILDING BLOCKS IN A BETTER TRADE SYSTEM

Canada has concluded or is working toward trade agreements with a variety of partners. These initiatives complement and reinforce Canada's push toward greater multilateral and regional free trade. Here is an update on where things stand.

Chile

The Canada–Chile Free Trade Agreement came into force on July 5, 1997. Since then, economic relations between the two countries have flourished. In 2002, bilateral trade amounted to \$947.6 million, including nearly \$280 million in Canadian exports. Investment has also increased to a total of \$5.69 billion, making Canada the third-largest investor in Chile.

Israel

The Canada–Israel Free Trade Agreement was Canada's first such accord with a nation outside the Western hemisphere. It eliminated tariffs on most industrial products originating in either partner and exported to the other country.

Since implementation of the agreement on January 1, 1997, bilateral trade between Canada and Israel has doubled; in 2002 it exceeded \$1 billion for the first time.

Costa Rica

On November 1, 2002, the Canada–Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement entered into force.

The agreement gives better access to the Costa Rican market for Canadian fish, paper products, auto parts, plastics, wood and agricultural goods. It also reduces red tape and border procedures for Canadians doing business in Costa Rica.

Two-way merchandise trade between Canada and Costa Rica amounted to \$321.9 million in 2002.

European Free Trade Association

On October 9, 1998, Canada announced the launch of free trade negotiations with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries of Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

In 2002, Canada's two-way goods trade with the EFTA countries was valued at \$7 billion; Canadian exports totalled \$1.5 billion, while imports totalled \$5.5 billion.

Singapore

On October 21, 2001, Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and Singapore's Prime Minister Gok Chok Tong announced the launch of negotiations toward a free trade agreement between Canada and Singapore.

In 2002, Canada's exports to Singapore totalled over \$513 million, making it Canada's 21st-largest export market for the year. Canada's 2002 imports from Singapore totalled \$988 million. In 2000, Canada's services exports to Singapore were valued at \$227 million, and imports totalled \$602 million.

Central America Four

Seeking to further enhance trade relations with Central America, on November 21, 2001, Canada launched free trade negotiations with El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

In 2002, bilateral merchandise trade between Canada and these four Central American countries totalled \$560.2 million. In 2000, bilateral trade in services was estimated at \$77 million, and Canadian direct

investment in these markets was estimated at over \$167 million.

CARICOM

On December 19, 2001, the Government of Canada announced public consultations to obtain the views of Canadians on a proposed free trade agreement with the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM).

Two-way merchandise trade between Canada and CARICOM reached \$1.24 billion in 2002. Canadian investment in the region has gone mainly to the financial, mining, energy and tourism sectors; it stood at \$31.7 billion in 2002, making this Canada's third most important investment destination after the United States and the United Kingdom. In addition, each year in the Caribbean, Canadian firms win consulting and engineering contracts worth \$200 million.

Andean Community countries and Dominican Republic

On November 4, 2002, Minister Pettigrew announced that the Government of Canada would hold broad and comprehensive consultations concerning two proposed free trade deals: one with the Andean Community countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) and the other with the Dominican Republic.

The Andean countries are important commercial partners for Canada. Bilateral trade reached \$3.3 billion in 2002, with Canadian exports totalling \$1.2 billion. Canadian investment in the Andean countries is estimated at \$11 billion. Two-way merchandise trade between Canada and the Dominican Republic is increasing; in 2002 it amounted to \$244.7 million. ♦

HELPING CANADIANS SUCCEED IN WORLD MARKETS

With a presence in 140 locations around the world, Canada's Trade Commissioner Service has the inside edge when it comes to helping Canadian business people increase their exports.

As a trade commissioner at the Canadian trade office in Cairo, Magdy Ghazal is quick to see red. That's red as in lentils, of which Egypt is the world's largest importer. And thanks to Ghazal's efforts, its main supplier today is Canada.

Egypt traditionally bought red lentils from Turkey and Syria, but those countries could not keep up with the growing demand. In search of new sources of supply, Egyptian importers approached Ghazal at the trade office.

"Canada didn't produce red lentils," says Ghazal, "but I contacted Pulse Canada—the national industry association for pulse growers—and the producers themselves, and convinced them that if they planted red lentils Egypt would buy them. We arranged for the importers to give them a letter of credit. The Canadian industry responded well and they went to the lab to come up with a hardy seed. Exporting started with a few containers, then a few more, and then boatloads. Now Canada has 70 percent of the Egyptian market."

As Chief Trade Commissioner and Assistant Deputy Minister of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), John Gero is proud of the work of Magdy Ghazal and many others in delivering programs and services to Canadian exporters. "Our most valuable—and value-added—asset is our people," he says. "Without them, we wouldn't be able to do very much for Canadian exporters."

The people Gero refers to are the women and men who work for Canada's Trade Commissioner Service (TCS). They include Ottawa-based staff plus 530 trade professionals in 140 locations throughout the world.

The government puts much effort into negotiating trade agreements to open up markets—and opportunities—for Canadian business people. "The agreements open doors," acknowledges Gero, "but the commitment and expertise of our people is often the critical factor in a company's winning or losing an international contract. Their knowledge of and familiarity with international markets, and the relationships they have established with foreign businesses and governments, can go a long way toward helping our companies succeed in the global arena."

Businesses of all kinds rely on TCS, from small and medium-sized enterprises cutting their teeth abroad to experienced firms looking to increase their share of international markets.

Whether to help understand other countries' trade practices, learn more about a target market or current regulations, find a likely trading partner or close deals, TCS officers in Atlanta, London, Mexico City, Singapore and elsewhere help Canadian business people make the most of potential opportunities.

A few years ago, DFAIT embarked on a major revitalization of the Trade Commissioner Service. Gero explains, "We took a good hard look at the



types of services we were offering, and the time and resources required to deliver these services. We wanted to make sure that we were giving our clients what they needed, in the most effective and efficient manner possible."

The result was a solid commitment to deliver six key or core services (see box). "These are the services that our clients told us would help them succeed," says Gero.

Determining potential

The first core service is helping firms assess their real potential in a market. TCS officers advise companies on doing business in the market, indicate major barriers and regulations, and notify companies of upcoming events, such as trade fairs, conferences, seminars and trade missions.

"Once we've assisted our clients to evaluate a market," says one TCS officer, "we can then help them decide

whether it is worthwhile to pursue business there, and suggest the steps they should take to move forward."

International Datacasting Corporation (IDC) is an award-winning Canadian firm that has benefited from this service. With its successful broadband technology, the Ottawa-based company is doing business in over 35 countries.

"The first call we make in a new market is usually to the Trade Commissioner Service office," says IDC's Diana Cantoe. "TCS is outstanding. We have found them useful as ears to the ground, helping make the right contacts and troubleshooting. They also serve as an ideal sounding board for brainstorming and new ideas."

Networking

Once a company decides to explore and develop a chosen market, it needs to make contacts and enter into business relations. TCS officers can help by supplying names of potential buyers, distributors, partners or other people who are important to know in a specific market.

TCS officer Joanne Smith, based in Rome, cites a recent example of how this type of service can pay off: "We helped a leading aviation software and training provider find local representation in Italy, and the company—Quebec-based Adacel Inc.—won its first contract in Italy in July 2002. Adacel first approached TCS in 2000 for assistance to expand into Italy. We provided it with a list of suitable,

expert aerospace agents, and from that list it found a local representative well connected in the industry. Adacel went on to beat out stiff Italian competition to win a \$3.2 million contract to supply its Air Traffic Control Tower Simulators to the Italian Air Traffic Control Authority."

A firm may also receive an unsolicited business offer. Before responding, it's vital to find out as much as possible about the potential partner—what it does and what it offers. TCS helps with its third core service: up-to-date, reliable information on local market organizations or companies.

At the trade office in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Francis Uy has seen how this service can yield tangible results: "We've been working with Quebec-based Gepay International over the past year to help it pursue opportunities for vocational training in the Vietnamese welding industry," says Uy. "The demand for qualified welders in Vietnam is especially high for oil and gas, shipbuilding, industrial and civil construction firms. But local training institutes are ill-equipped and do not have the resources to provide this specialized training, thereby creating a demand for Gepay's expertise. We arranged for Gepay to meet with representatives of local technical and vocational institutions, as well as oil and gas companies. As a result, Gepay is now negotiating an agreement with a number of local training centres in Vietnam."

Specialized visit information

Clients also turn to TCS when they are about to visit a market that interests them. "If they ask their TCS officer for information about a locale, she or he can tell them when it's appropriate to make a trip and how to organize it," says Gero. Officers can advise on such matters as national customs, local transportation, business support services, local interpreters and translators, and accommodation. During a visit, it's



Photo: DPAI (BC) Image Bank

a must for company representatives to meet with TCS officers in order to explain their needs and obtain information on recent developments in the target market.

As CEO of Cubex Limited of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Hemant M. Shah is quick to credit the help he received from TCS. After settling in Canada in 1978, Shah immediately began to explore opportunities for exporting back to India. Almost from the start he received support from the International Trade Centre in Winnipeg. "The trade officers I came into contact with gave me guidance and moral support," he says. Assistance came as well from Canadian trade officers based in Bombay (now Mumbai). Thanks to the networking channels developed in those early years, Shah has racked up one export success after another, including sales of agricultural equipment and dried peas.

In 1998 Shah launched a joint venture with a partner in the Indian city of Hyderabad; TCS had supplied the introduction. The original aim of KLR-Cubex International Ltd. was to develop an underground drilling machine tailored to India's needs. Now the company has expanded its

Six core services of Canada's Trade Commissioner Service

- Market prospect
- Key contacts search
- Local company information
- Visit information
- Face-to-face briefing
- Troubleshooting

line to include municipal maintenance systems, such as road sweepers and sewer cleaning equipment.

Problem solving

Troubleshooting—the sixth core service—helps companies resolve business problems in a market.

“In many countries, negotiations are conducted much more formally than in North America; they won’t agree to anything in principle until all the technical issues are worked out,” says Don Campbell, group president in charge of military simulation and training for CAE Inc. of Montreal, Quebec. “You have to have your ducks lined up and be ready for spirited rounds of negotiations.”

Campbell adds that negotiations are only one element in winning a contract. Another is developing relationships with the appropriate authorities, particularly for government contracts. CAE has found TCS invaluable in facilitating such contacts, and troubleshooting where necessary: “If we run into a roadblock, we know we can count on TCS to help us work our way through it.”

Many projects call on most, or all, of TCS’s six core services—or still more. Doreen Steidle, Canadian High Commissioner to Singapore, mentions a notable case: a school bus safety project making use of a state-of-the-art satellite positioning application developed by Vancouver-based Unity Integration Corp. Starting from project conception, Canadian trade officers took an active role in helping to realize the vision. The result: the project swiftly reached the pilot stage at a local school. Says Steidle, “This is one of those successes that goes beyond the commercial to leave an indelible mark on the local community, which will continue to see the benefits of this unique idea from Canada.” ♣

CAREERS WITHOUT BORDERS

For three new trade commissioners, getting into Canada’s Foreign Service was just the beginning. Now, after rigorous on-the-job training in Ottawa, the world awaits them.

A journalist with Reuters, Eugenie Cormier-Lassonde saw a recruitment poster at the Université de Montréal, where she was studying economics part-time.

An industrial commissioner for a Quebec county, François Lasalle spotted an advertisement in the Montreal newspaper *La Presse*.

A teacher who had worked overseas, Nira Shearer visited the Foreign Service Web site.

All three are now pursuing careers in the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service, a division of Canada’s Foreign Service.

“Trade commissioners are an exceptional and dedicated group of professionals who pull out all the stops to help Canadian business succeed abroad, often in very difficult situations,” says International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew.

Each year, some 6,000 applicants compete for foreign service officer positions. Only about 60 are selected. They come from a multitude of backgrounds. For example, Eugenie knows of a filmmaker and a Yale University physicist, both now bringing their particular expertise and perspective to the Canadian Foreign Service.

Trade is one of four career streams from which candidates can choose. The others are immigration, and consular and political affairs.

For all four streams, the application process is the same. It starts with three tests: graduate recruitment; written communication proficiency; and Foreign Service situational judgment. If successful, candidates are interviewed by a Public Service Commission panel. Then, if the candidates meet

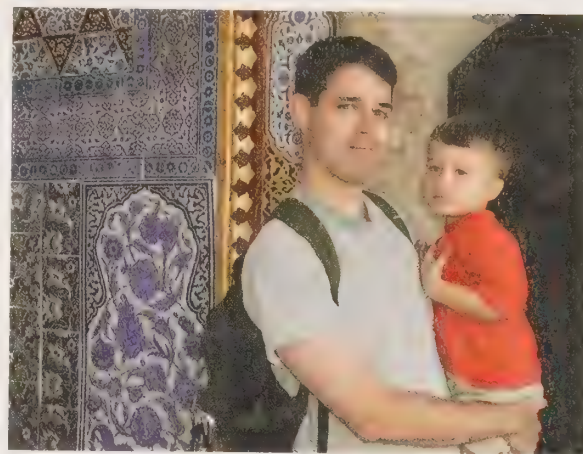


photo: Christine Le Blen

the medical, security and language requirements, they are ready to embark on one of the most challenging and rewarding adventures of their lives.

Trade was the first choice of Eugenie, François and Nira.

“I was interested in trade because it is very hands-on and results-based, much like teaching,” says Nira. “Also, I liked the fact that I would be dealing mostly with the private sector, Canadian entrepreneurs, exporters, investors and so on. This struck me as an area where I could see some positive results that helped not only the country as a whole but individual Canadians and their families.”

Eugenie feels much the same way: “In trade, I saw an opportunity to work closely with Canadians, to help them realize their goals and ambitions, and to contribute, at least in a small way, to their success.” This, she adds, “goes even further when you consider that their success translates into more jobs for more Canadians and greater growth for Canada as well.”

“I was already in the business, so to speak,” says François. “I had been

François Lasalle at the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul, Turkey, with his son Raphaël.



Nira Shearer (left) and Eugenie Cormier-Lassonde at headquarters in Ottawa.

working for six years with the regional economic development board of a county in Quebec. As an industrial commissioner it was my job to help people start their own businesses. So for me there were a lot of similarities between what I was already doing and working in trade, and it was something that I really enjoyed."

And of course there's the travel. But first, new TCS officers spend

one to two years at Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade headquarters in Ottawa. There they receive basic training in trade or one of the three other career streams.

For François, it was two years as a media relations officer in the Communications Branch. Nira worked for one year in the Baltic, Central European and Eastern Mediterranean Division, and Eugenie has been with the Eastern European Division for just six months.

New recruits receive training and practical experience at headquarters. They work with various geographic branches in Ottawa and trade offices around the world. And they travel across Canada visiting exporters, industry associations, provincial and municipal trade organizations, and a host of other groups involved in trade.

Once they complete initial training in Ottawa, the recruits can apply to

be posted overseas, submitting a list of three preferred locations. Nira will soon be on her way to Kazakhstan. After only one year at headquarters, she considers this a great opportunity. "I'm looking forward to it," she says. "My goal was to work abroad, so when the position in Kazakhstan came up, I was eager to pursue it." She is now learning Russian and will be ready to take up her posting in September 2003.

François is already working at the TCS office in Ankara, Turkey. For him, location was not the most important factor in his decision: "Where I would be posted was important, especially because I have a family. But I was equally interested in the people I would be working with and the type of work I would be doing," he says. "Turkey is a very interesting post, the people are enthusiastic and dedicated. And the work is challenging since

YOUTH

DEVELOP GLOBAL CAREER SKILLS

For youth of Canada interested in gaining career experience abroad, Young Professionals International is a good place to start.

A young woman from the Whitebear Nation in Saskatchewan analyzes Maori interests in New Zealand. A young man from Ontario works on missile proliferation issues for the United Nations in Geneva. A visually impaired youth from Newfoundland and Labrador develops the pedestrian safety for the blind project in Washington, D.C.

Like hundreds of others, these three young Canadians have been sponsored by Young Professionals International (formerly the Youth International Internship Program) of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Part of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy, this initiative is designed to help Canada's youth develop the skills they need in today's global economy. It offers a first paid career-related work experience in another country. Young Canadians are eligible if they are between 18 and 30 years of age, unemployed or underemployed, not enrolled in an educational program—and are keen for international experience to launch their career.

One program alumnus is David Belluz. He got a start in film production; now he heads his own business.

The aspiring young Saskatchewan filmmaker interested Regina-based Cooper Rock Pictures in a documentary demo reel he had shot. With the assistance of Young Professionals International and the Canadian Film and Television Production Association,

Belluz trained at Cooper Rock and filmed several documentaries in Gulu, northern Uganda—including one on the 300,000 displaced persons in that region.

With help from Cooper Rock, Belluz saw his projects through all the stages from development to post-production. He then started his own company, Alethia Productions Inc. Jointly with Cooper Rock, he received full funding from three broadcasters for *Ebola War: The Nurses of Gulu*.

For Belluz and hundreds of others, Young Professionals International has been only the beginning.

The program has placed young Canadians in some 115 countries around the world, in organizations such as the Institute for Education in Democracy in Nairobi, Kenya, or the Commonwealth Youth Program of the Caribbean Regional Centre in

Turkey is just coming out of a difficult recession and the prospects for Canadian businesses are growing. It's an exciting place to be."

Eugenie hasn't yet decided to which TCS office she'd like to apply. "I've only been at headquarters for six months and I'm learning a lot. I had decided to commit to two years of training before applying for a position abroad," she says. "That's coming up and I'm looking forward to finding a good position somewhere in the world, where I can make a real contribution and feel good about the new career and direction I've chosen." 🍁

For information on how to apply for a Foreign Service career: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/departement/service/menu-en.asp

Georgetown, Guyana, or the Canada-Philippines Chamber of Commerce in Manila. It has also placed young people in companies, such as Entreprise Berthier in Costa Rica; Amisk Czech, a Canadian-owned steel-frame home builder in Brno, Czech Republic; and Trinôme Inc., a Montreal film production company. 🍁

For more information on Young Professionals International:

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/interns

MORE TRADE SERVICES

TEAM CANADA

equals jobs and growth

Hold the tequila! Discerning consumers from Tijuana to Oaxaca are reaching for Canadian Iceberg Vodka.

This fine product is made from water harvested from icebergs floating off the coast of Newfoundland—the purest on earth—and Canadian sweet corn. Last year, worldwide retail sales totalled approximately \$10 million in 14 countries. Now Canadian Iceberg has found a new market in Mexico, thanks to Team Canada—one of the Trade Commissioner Service's highest-profile programs.

Team Canada trade missions are led by the Prime Minister, the Minister for International Trade, provincial premiers and territorial government leaders. They join in a unique partnership to increase Canada's trade and create jobs and growth back home.

In addition, the Minister for International Trade often leads Canada trade or business development missions. These operate much like the Team Canada missions but without the participation of the Prime Minister or provincial and territorial leaders.

During a Canada trade mission to Mexico in June 2002, Canadian Iceberg signed a three-year agreement worth \$2,475,000 giving Comercializadora Los Agaves exclusive distribution rights in that country.

This was the third time company president Gary Pollack joined a mission organized by the Government of Canada, with the aim of securing new distribution channels for his award-winning vodka. The results of previous trips were equally impressive: a \$7-million deal to promote sales in Russia; and a distribution deal



signed in Hong Kong, opening doors to mainland China.

Team Canada missions promote Canada's commercial, political, educational and cultural links with other countries. With the presence and support of the Prime Minister and other government leaders, Canadian firms gain unique access to key economic decision makers and enjoy a high public profile.

The missions send a strong message to prospective partners that Canada is committed to doing business with them. They build prestige and credibility for Canada, helping new as well as experienced exporters to position themselves in competitive world markets.

Among the participants: exporters; heads of academic institutions; promoters of arts, culture and tourism; representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises; and Aboriginal, youth and women entrepreneurs.

The first Team Canada mission visited China in 1994, and the most recent one went to Russia and Germany in 2002. In all, there have been seven missions with some 2,800 participants representing Canadian businesses and organizations, who have secured \$30.6 billion in new business. And added to that are the hundreds of business ventures nurtured over time as a result of the missions. 🍁

International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew addresses business delegates during 2002 Team Canada trade mission to Germany

For more information:
www.teamcanada.gc.ca

SUPPORT ON THE WEB

Exporting is a challenge, especially for anyone new to it. The good news is that there is plenty of support to smooth your way.

On-line service

The Virtual Trade Commissioner is one of the newest and most innovative trade programs offered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. This is an on-line service for Canadian exporters looking for information on contacts and business opportunities in foreign markets.

The Virtual Trade Commissioner goes to work once a Canadian business registers as a client on the Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) Web site. It creates a personalized Web page for that company, with direct links to the trade officers responsible for business sectors in the firm's selected markets. The page also features the most recent market research, business opportunities, trade events and news to match the client's interests.

Through the Virtual Trade Commissioner, companies can register for trade missions or seminars, or request one of the six TCS core services on-line (see box, p. 10). In addition, clients are publicized to trade officers around the world.

Canada salutes its top exporters

Every year, the Canada Export Awards honour outstanding Canadian companies for their talent and innovative spirit in exporting.

"Canadian exporters are recognized around the world for their innovation and for the excellence of their products and services," says International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew. "Their achievements help Canada remain a leader in international trade. We want to highlight those firms that are competing and succeeding with the best in the world."

Since 1983, more than 200 companies have received awards for successfully expanding their businesses beyond Canada's borders. This year, the finalists will be announced in July. The winners and the Exporter of the Year will be feted at a gala presentation ceremony and dinner to be held in Toronto in November 2003.

For a demonstration of the Virtual Trade Commissioner, or to register on-line and access a personalized Web page: www.infoexport.gc.ca

e-Leads

Leads are vital in business. That's why TCS offers a unique service for Canadian exporters: the International Business Opportunities Centre's electronic leads system, known as e-Leads. This delivers international business leads from foreign buyers right to the desktops of Canadian companies.

The service is free for Canadian firms; simply complete a profile indicating export preferences.

For more information: www.e-leads.ca/cancompanies/default-e.asp

Target: new markets

The TCS Market Research Centre produces timely information to help Canadian exporters identify new markets for their products and services.

Country- and sector-specific market reports and briefs cover a broad range of business interests, from agri-food and bio-industries to information and communications technology. Over 1,000 reports and briefs are currently available on the TCS Web site (www.infoexport.gc.ca).

CanadExport delivers the news

Every two weeks, some 70,000 Canadian businesses receive *CanadExport*—an international trade and investment newsletter distributed free of charge.

CanadExport provides information on export opportunities, trade fairs and missions, and business conferences. It carries features and articles on export markets and successful Canadian exporters. Its pages contain invaluable information to help

Network makes exporting easy

A huge network is in place to help Canadian business people who are looking to export. The players on Team Canada Inc (TCI) are all-stars: over 20 federal government departments and agencies; provincial, territorial and municipal governments; industry associations; educational institutions; and private firms.

It's a complete package—all of Canada's trade-related organizations under one roof.

If a company wants to export barley to Saudi Arabia, for example, TCI can provide connections to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the industry association, and the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service.

TCI helps companies prepare for their first export venture. It also helps experienced exporters expand into new markets.

Explore the full range of Team Canada Inc services. Telephone 1-888-811-1119 or visit ExportSource (www.exportsource.gc.ca), Canada's most comprehensive on-line source for export information.

Canadian exporters stay ahead of the competition.

For more information or to subscribe: www.infoexport.gc.ca/canadexport

Calling all Canadian women entrepreneurs!

"Businesswomen in Trade" is a Web site tailored to women-led businesses looking to export or improve their export performance.

The site offers practical advice from experienced businesswomen, information on trade events, and market leads and opportunities. Provided as well are links to key contacts in regional, national and international associations, government support agencies, and financial institutions.

For more information: www.infoexport.gc.ca/businesswomen ♣

New scheme to halt trade in conflict diamonds

Diamonds are small, valuable and easily traded—an ideal resource for funding a war. But diamonds will cease to be the currency of conflict under a new international scheme.

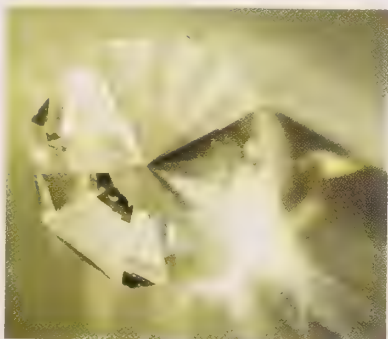
In the late 1990s the illicit trade in rough diamonds was fuelling armed conflicts in Angola, Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and elsewhere. As

the problem of “conflict diamonds” grew, the lack of controls on trading threatened the legitimacy of the diamond industry.

The United Nations Security Council introduced sanctions intended to stop the trade in conflict diamonds from war zones. But more needed to be done.

In May 2000 southern African nations stepped forward and launched the Kimberley Process, an initiative to bring greater control and transparency to the diamond industry. The result: As of January 1, 2003, Canada and over 30 other countries have implemented a scheme that requires diamond exporters or importers to have a certificate issued by a government stating each diamond's origin. The aim is to prevent diamonds that are funding conflict from entering the legitimate diamond market.

Under the scheme, rough diamonds exported from Canada will be certified as conflict-free, and Canada will import only diamonds that are covered by the Kimberley Process. Penalties include fines, imprisonment and the loss of trading licences.



Youth forum offers recommendations

From March 21 to 24 in Ottawa, over 120 young Canadians aged 18 to 21 from across the country participated in the National Forum for Youth 2003, hosted by the Canadian Centre for

Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD). The theme of the Forum was “The Next Canada: The World We Want.”

“I feel that it is important to hear from Canadian youth on future directions for Canadian foreign

policy,” said Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham. “The report and recommendations from the National Forum are welcome contributions to the government's Dialogue on Foreign Policy.”

On the final day of the event, participants presented Minister Graham with key policy recommendations and advice on each of the three pillars of Canadian foreign policy: security; prosperity; and values and culture.

The youth participants were selected from seven partner organizations: the United Nations Association of Canada; Canada World Youth; the YMCA; the Canadian Junior Chamber; the Canadian Ethnocultural Council; War Child Canada; and the National Association of Friendship Centres.

The final report and recommendations are posted on the CCFPD Web site: www.cfp-pec.gc.ca

Canadian elected first President of International Criminal Court

In March 2003, Philippe Kirsch was unanimously elected President of the newly established International Criminal Court (icc) at its inaugural meeting in The Hague, Netherlands.

A member of the Canadian Foreign Service since 1972, Mr. Kirsch has been a leading figure in the establishment of the icc. He chaired the negotiations that led to adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 1998. He also chaired the 1999–2002 Preparatory Commission; this developed important subsidiary instruments, such as the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. Mr. Kirsch is a recognized expert in international humanitarian and criminal law, and has been active in promoting ratification of the Rome Statute.

Mr. Kirsch will serve a six-year term as an icc judge and a renewable three-year term as President of the Court. icc vice-presidents are Akua Kuenyehia of Ghana and Elizabeth Odio Benito of Costa Rica.

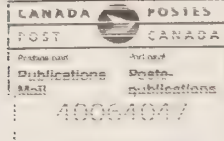
Canada helps developing countries participate in World Trade Organization

On March 10, 2003, International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew announced that Canada would provide \$500,000 to help developing countries better participate in World Trade Organization (WTO) activities.

The funding supports specific commitments made to developing countries under the WTO's Doha Development Agenda (see p. 5). These include enhancing the negotiating capacity of developing countries, as well as helping them to adjust to WTO rules and implement their WTO obligations.

The \$500,000 is in addition to \$1 million previously contributed by Canada to the WTO's Global Trust Fund, and \$300,000 donated to the WTO's Training Institute. ♦

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CALENDAR

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

JUNE

June 1-3
G8 Summit
Evian, France

June 2-3
**Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
(APEC) forum**
Trade Ministers' Meeting
Khon Kaen, Thailand

June 8-10
**Organization of American States
General Assembly**
Santiago, Chile

JULY

July 2
**International Olympic Committee
selects site of 2010 Winter Games**
Prague, Czech Republic

AUGUST

August 7-8
**APEC Small and Medium-sized
Enterprise (SME) Ministerial
Meeting**
Chiang Mai, Thailand

SEPTEMBER

September 10-14
**World Trade Organization (WTO)
Ministerial Conference**
Cancun, Mexico

September 21-28
World Forestry Congress
Quebec City, Quebec

September 29-October 3
World Climate Change Conference
Moscow, Russia

CULTURE AND CANADIAN STUDIES

APRIL

April 3-November 30
Shaw Festival
Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

April 10-November 9
Stratford Festival
Stratford, Ontario

JUNE

June 25-26
Banff Mountain Film Festival
Huaraz, Peru

JULY

July 19-October 5
Cirque du Soleil Japan tour
Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka, Fukuoka

AUGUST

August 27-28
Banff Mountain Film Festival
Lima, Peru

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAYS

JUNE

June 5
World Environment Day

June 26
**International Day against Drug
Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**

AUGUST

August 8
**International Day of the World's
Indigenous People**

August 12
International Youth Day

SEPTEMBER

September 9
International Day of Peace

CA1
EA
- US8

Government
Publishing

Canada World View

Beyond Peace: Canada in Afghanistan

CBC's "The Current"
in Kabul

Puppets for Peace
in the Middle East

About *Canada World View*

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Our cover

The ruined King's Palace next to Camp Julien, the main Canadian Forces base in Kabul, tears with life. Afghan children have "turned the rubble into a playing field," says photographer Pedram Pirnia, adding that the recognition of Canadians—and of the flags Pirnia handed out to those curious "guides" while on a visit to the palace—was high. Pirnia spent two months in Afghanistan researching constitution making and agricultural reform in the country. Meanwhile, on assignment for the Canadian International Development Agency, he photographed Canadian aid projects as well as Afghan people, their way of life, nature and architecture. His photographs appear throughout this issue.

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BUILDING BRIDGES IN AFGHANISTAN

Canada's renewed commitment to Afghanistan involves a coordinated, long-term approach that brings together the three arms of Canadian foreign policy: defence, diplomacy and development.

The bridge is hardly noticeable, a modest concrete structure that traverses a small river on the southern edge of Kabul. Yet for the people of the district of Paghman, the Deh-e Punbah Bridge is a critical lifeline to the city that's easily weakened by seasonal floods and unable to take heavy commercial traffic. For several weeks this fall, overseeing the reconstruction of the bridge became a focus of activity for members of the Royal Canadian Regiment—and a symbol of the close cooperation between Canada and Afghanistan in the effort to help rebuild the devastated country.

Such involvement by Canada in Afghanistan dates back to the early 1960s, with the first Canadian development assistance program in the country. As the need to coordinate the efforts of the various development agencies working there grew, Ottawa established diplomatic relations with Afghanistan. However, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in 1979 and the installation of a puppet regime led the Canadian government to sever diplomatic ties. Even after the Soviet withdrawal in 1989, connections between the two countries remained minimal, although Canada provided some humanitarian aid throughout the 1990s.

A Renewed Commitment

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, prompted Canada and other countries to re-evaluate their policies toward Afghanistan. The collapse of the Taliban regime in October 2001 was followed by a meeting of groups interested in developing a framework for governing the country. The resulting Bonn Agreement led to the creation of an interim administration, headed by Hamid Karzai, and gave the international community a new opportunity to help end decades of civil conflict and contribute effectively to the reconstruction of the country.

Canada's renewed commitment to Afghanistan is rooted in the principle of a multilateral approach with two main



Friendship grows into brotherhood: Mohammed Musa, the Governor of Paghman District, and Lieutenant Colonel Don Denne, Commanding Officer of Third Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, cut a ribbon to open the Deh-e Punbah Bridge, reconstructed with the assistance of the regiment under the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) civil-military cooperation program. The newly rebuilt bridge serves the interest of local villagers as well as ISAF in their patrols of the area, says Denne. "The building of this bridge is a symbol of the friendship between the people of Canada and the people of Afghanistan," he says, "and further stands as a testament to our spirit of cooperation in the rebuilding of Afghanistan."



objectives: security and reconstruction. Achieving these will ensure that the country never again becomes a haven for terrorism and extremism.

"In short, the mission speaks both to Canadians' altruism—our desire to help others—and to our self-interest—our desire to put down terrorism and enhance our own domestic security," says Minister of National Defence John McCallum. "In the absence of international forces, there is a serious risk that the country would fall back into the hands of the Taliban a serious risk that it would once again become a breeding ground for terrorist organizations like al-Qaeda. That is something the world cannot allow."

Putting it into Practice

With the installation of the interim administration, Afghanistan rejoined the world community, and Canada had an opportunity to put its new policies into action. An administration committed to peaceful coexistence, national reconstruction and democratic elections clearly deserved support, and Canada re-established diplomatic relations with Afghanistan in January 2002.

Real action followed soon after. Although the Taliban regime that supported the terrorists was no longer in power, the military situation remained far from secure. As part of Operation Apollo, a Canadian Forces battle group of

850 soldiers was dispatched to Afghanistan in February 2002. Working with the U.S. military, the Canadians deployed to the southern Kandahar region for six months to conduct offensive operations against remaining Taliban forces, the first time that Canadian ground forces had been involved in combat since the Korean War.

At the same time, Canada moved quickly to respond to the humanitarian and reconstruction needs of the Afghan people. At the Tokyo Conference on Reconstruction in Afghanistan in January 2002, Canada pledged \$100 million in assistance. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, much of the funding was allocated to organizations providing humanitarian relief, including UNICEF, Care Canada, the Red Cross, the World Food Programme and Aga Khan Foundation Canada. Other support was devoted to policing, legal reform and the demobilization and reintegration of combatants.

The 3D Approach

These contributions to Afghanistan were significant. But with increased defence, diplomatic and development efforts—a total Canadian investment expected to top \$1 billion

over the next two years alone—came the need for a more comprehensive strategy. The result was what Canada calls its “3D Approach,” involving unprecedented levels of coordination among government departments and agencies.

photo: Pedram Pirnia



Kabul street: responding to the humanitarian and reconstruction needs of the Afghan people is critical.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), for example, has provided the Department of National Defence (DND) with financial support to assist in the implementation of joint civil-military cooperation efforts. These include the Deh-e Punbah Bridge reconstruction as well as projects to provide fresh water, power and shelter and to rebuild schools and hospitals, thus promoting closer ties with the Afghan communities they serve. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade provides diplomatic and logistic support for DND's security mission and CIDA's aid programs.

Defence: Security and Reconstruction

In Afghanistan's war-torn capital of Kabul, the key focus is on keeping the peace. If the country is to be successful in its rebuilding efforts, the transitional government and the many relief agencies must be able to function in a secure environment. To help ensure this, the UN mandated the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to help the Afghan authorities maintain security in Kabul and surrounding areas.

Since August 2003, the 5,000 troops of the NATO-led ISAF mission have provided the Karzai government with greater stability. Canada plays a major role in NATO's first ever out-of-area operation. Indeed, with a contingent of more than 1,900 soldiers, including a battalion group, a brigade headquarters and an airlift detachment, Canada is the largest single contributor to ISAF. Canada is also assuming important command responsibilities, as Major General Andrew Leslie is currently the Deputy Commander of ISAF and Lieutenant General Rick Hillier will become the Commander of ISAF in February 2004.

Diplomacy: A New Embassy

Since the re-establishment of diplomatic relations in January, ties between Canada and Afghanistan have grown stronger at a rapid pace, underlining how seriously Ottawa takes the relationship. The opening of a Canadian embassy in

Afghanistan at a Glance

Capital: Kabul

Area: 647,500 sq. km. (roughly the size of Manitoba)

Terrain: mostly rugged mountains; plains in north and southwest

Climate: arid to semiarid; cold winters and hot summers

Population: 28,717,213 (July 2003)

Age structure: 0-14 years: 41.8%; 15-64 years: 55.4%; 65 years and over: 2.8%

Ethnic groups: Pashtun 44%, Tajik 25%, Hazara 10%, minor ethnic groups (Aimaks, Turkmen, Baloch, and others) 13%, Uzbek 8%

Life expectancy at birth: 46.97 years

Religions: Sunni Muslim 84%, Shi'a Muslim 15%, other 1%

Literacy rate: overall 36%; male 51%

Labour force by occupation: agriculture 80%, industry 10%, services 10% (1990)

Natural resources: natural gas, petroleum, coal, copper, chromite, talc, barite, sulfur, lead, zinc, iron ore, salt, precious and semiprecious stones

GDP: purchasing power parity, US\$19 billion (2002)

Kabul was announced in June 2003. In July, Christopher Alexander was appointed Canada's first ambassador to Afghanistan, and by early August the embassy was up and running. A month later, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bill Graham, flew to Kabul to discuss Canada's growing commitments in Afghanistan. President Karzai visited Ottawa in late September, and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien travelled to Kabul in October.

When he opened the mission, Mr. Graham said that it would provide critical diplomatic and logistic support to assist Canada's security and aid programs in Afghanistan.

"The embassy in Kabul is a timely contribution to Canada's stabilization and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan," he said. "A firm diplomatic presence is important in enabling us to work closely with our Afghan partners, as well as with the resident international community, to ensure that the country doesn't again become a haven for terrorists."

Canadian diplomats are also busy at work in multilateral forums such as the UN, NATO and the G8, as well as in national capitals, forging international commitment and consensus for the reconstruction and stabilization process.

Development: Improving Lives

Canada recognizes the urgent need to improve the lives of the Afghan people after decades of conflict, drought and natural disaster. Massive rebuilding is necessary if Afghanistan is once again to have a functioning infrastructure and effective economic, political and judicial institutions.

In March 2003, Canada's Minister for International Cooperation, Susan Whelan, pledged \$250 million in new aid for Afghanistan over the next two years—the largest single country pledge ever made by the Government of Canada. This brings to more than \$500 million the amount of humanitarian and reconstruction assistance Canada has provided for Afghanistan since 1990. The money will go toward four main areas: supporting rural livelihoods and social protection; supporting natural resource management and agriculture; strengthening security and the rule of law; and providing continued operating budget support to the Afghan government.

"The people of Afghanistan can count on Canada's support as they build a better future for themselves, their families and their communities," Minister Whelan says.

Looking to the Future

The situation in Afghanistan remains tenuous and volatile, but progress is being made. Canada stands firmly behind the Bonn Agreement as the greatest hope for establishing peace and security, reconstructing the country, re-establishing key institutions and protecting human

rights. Canada is committed to a long-term presence in the country through a combination of defence, diplomatic support and development aid that manifests itself in myriad ways such as the new Deh-e Punbah Bridge—and will help to ensure stability and a better quality of life for the people of Afghanistan. ♣

Find out more about the important diplomatic, defence and development contributions that Canada is making to the security and reconstruction of Afghanistan at www.canada-afghanistan.gc.ca.



Chrétien Visits the Troops

Canada's commitment to Afghanistan and the Canadian Forces stationed there was reinforced in a historic visit to Kabul on October 17 by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

Mr. Chrétien spoke to members of the Royal Canadian Regiment at the main Canadian base, Camp Julien, noting that during his term in office the Forces "have undertaken more deployments, to more regions, than at any time in Canada's history." He thanked the troops for their efforts and recognized their sacrifices.

"I am deeply impressed by your contribution. But I am vividly conscious of the dangers you face," he said. "By establishing peace and security, you are also providing the groundwork for humanitarian assistance and development programs that will help Afghanistan rebuild its economic, political and judicial institutions."

Canadian Ambassador Christopher Alexander said that Mr. Chrétien met with interim president Hamid Karzai at a lunch where the two discussed the difficult security situation—underscored by intense security surrounding the Prime Minister's visit—as well as Afghanistan's political agenda.

"It was a very valuable visit," Mr. Alexander said. "By coming here, the Prime Minister showed that Afghanistan is a priority not only for Canada, but for the G8 nations, too, and that we are one of the most active and activist players."

For the Prime Minister's full remarks during his visit to Camp Julien visit: www.pm.gc.ca.

photo: CP (Paul Chiasson)

OUR MAN IN KABUL

Canadian Ambassador Christopher Alexander gets to work helping Afghans break down barriers and rebuild lives.

It is not always easy being a diplomat, but no more so than in Afghanistan. Christopher Alexander, who became Canada's first ambassador to the country in July, lives and works in conditions that can best be described as modest but functional, travels in an armoured SUV and has more guards than program officers on his staff. Despite all of that, he is enthused about his new posting.

His logic is simple: he sees a vital role for a Canadian diplomat in Kabul. "Afghanistan has been through an enormous number of conflicts of different types over the past 25 years, and it is a very factionalized place. Our role of breaking down the barriers between factions and restoring trust between groups who were on opposite sides of the barricades is essential."

At only 35, Mr. Alexander is one of the youngest Canadian ambassadors ever appointed. Still, he comes with plenty of experience to help him handle the challenges of Kabul. Since joining the Foreign Service in 1991, he has twice served abroad in Moscow, as Second Secretary from 1993 to 1996 and Minister-Counsellor from 2000 to 2003.

In Ottawa, he was Assistant to the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1996 and 1997, and Deputy Director (Russia) in the Eastern Europe Division from 1997 to 2000.

That experience stands him in good stead in Kabul, where his role is not only to break down barriers between Afghans, but also to coordinate the activities of Canadians working in the country. And there is no shortage of coordinating to do. "Our soldiers are all around us," Mr. Alexander



Ambassador Christopher Alexander in his modest but functional Kabul office.

says, "but Canadian civilians are also very numerous on the ground here in Kabul, working for a variety of NGOs, humanitarian organizations and UN agencies."

Furthermore, Canadians will be in Afghanistan for awhile. "The number one request that everyone here makes of Canada as a leading donor country is that we extend our commitment over the longer term," he adds. "No one knows what the needs will be beyond 2005, but follow-through and continuity are going to be crucial."

Doing all of this is not made any easier by the fact that Kabul remains a highly dangerous place in which to live and work. Mr. Alexander acknowledges that security remains "the number one precondition for success," but the Military Security Guards see to it that he and his staff feel safe. "It's an unprecedented and challenging posting for them, but frankly our work here would not be possible without them."

Above all, he remains optimistic, especially because of the amount of reconstruction he sees taking place in Kabul. "Individual families and organizations are rebuilding their houses, opening their shops, painting their buildings," he says. "Every neighbourhood where people live is a beehive of reconstruction at the micro level." ♦

To find out more about Canada's diplomatic relationship with Afghanistan, visit www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/afghanistan.



Growing commitment: (left to right): Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham and Ambassador Christopher Alexander meet with Afghan President Hamid Karzai at the presidential palace in Kabul.

DISPATCHES

Setting up an embassy in the Afghan capital has had its challenges, new Consul Peter Marshall reports.

When the Government of Canada announced earlier this year that it would establish an embassy in Kabul, the new mission became the focus of my life. As the Consular Program Manager, I was responsible for getting it up and running.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade decided to set up its embassy in a guesthouse being vacated by the Canadian International Development Agency, although the building required a major upgrade to address security, electrical and operational needs. The international engineering company we initially worked with was not able to get the project in gear in time for the scheduled opening in July 2003, so I got the go-ahead to manage it locally. I hired a couple of local contractors with good reputations and started them off with smaller projects, like installing security grills and a flagpole. We quickly moved on to more substantial jobs, such as raising perimeter security walls, installing secure rooms and safe

havens, and building a guard hut. As there was little local expertise in electrical matters, the High Commission in Islamabad volunteered its electrical experts to rewire the building and install heating and cooling units and a generator. The house's garden, once lush with grapevines, roses and a mulberry tree, soon resembled a construction site.

Bureaucracy proved not to be a problem; city codes and building permits are non-existent here. Without any commercial banks, financing the project required a creative approach—including trips to Islamabad to bring back funds. We used cellphones for communication, but often could not get through for hours on the oversubscribed system. For the Internet, initially we waited in line at Kabul's first Internet cafés and then purchased our own satellite dish. Unfortunately, everyone else did the same, and the satellite quickly became overburdened and slow—not to mention susceptible to sunspot activity in the afternoon.

There was originally no central heating in the house, and in the early days we would huddle around space heaters in the hope that the creaky old generator would not die during the night. City power was rare, and we did not want to risk the flames and fumes of the kerosene heaters that were standard around town. Now we use city power whenever possible, thanks to a cable we ran to the nearest transformer—earning us the goodwill of our neighbours by improving their electricity supply as well.

I was the only Canadian continuously on site until the welcome arrival of seven Military Security Guards in July. They adapted quickly and helped with many of the tasks. On August 9, after e-mailing pictures of our progress back to Ottawa, we were given the OK to raise the Canadian flag. Much more fine-tuning was required, and it was early September by the time Ambassador Christopher Alexander presented his credentials to the Afghan government, the embassy was opened by Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham—and our operations approximated anything near normal.

The embassy gardens are once more green and lush, and the building will continue to be home for some time to come. With 20-plus staff in a modest four-bedroom house, it is a little cramped, but we are making it work. ♣

Work in progress: Consul Peter Marshall with local contractors and security at the Canadian embassy.



CANADA'S COMMANDER IN AFGHANISTAN

Canada World View recently spoke with Major General Andrew Leslie, Canada's senior commander in Afghanistan and Deputy Commander of ISAF (International Security Assistance Force).

Sgt Frank Hudec, Canadian Forces Combat Camera



Q. Canada has opened an embassy in Kabul. From a Canadian commander's perspective, could you describe the impact of having a Canadian diplomatic mission there?

A. At my level, it's ideal. The military is, in the final analysis, a political instrument. If we had the military operating in isolation, one could question why we were actually here. But by opening the embassy and putting Ambassador Chris Alexander in—he's a good friend, and I like to think we are an extraordinarily good team—it represents both lines of operation. Chris handles the diplomatic and higher-level political skill set; he interfaces, and I worry about things on the ground.

Q. Canada has the largest contingent in ISAF. Could you describe the Canadian Forces' role?

A. Canada provides over 40 percent of ISAF, the largest single contribution. We're also the most technologically advanced in terms of equipment, and arguably have the best trained soldiers.

Our soldiers patrol up in the mountains around Kabul to make sure no unpleasant people are there to fire rockets

into the city. They chase away Taliban or al-Qaeda elements and criminals who prey on the people flowing into Kabul. Equally important, the soldiers patrol inside Kabul, day and night. They take the local police out with them, training them, showing them how we conduct our business in a nation where respect for the rule of law is well established. These "presence patrols" reassure the locals that someone is out there providing security for them. The soldiers also do a variety of health projects.

Q. Describe how Canadian Forces' civil-military cooperation programs influence the relationship between the Canadian Forces and Afghans.

A. We are spending a significant amount of money on civil-military cooperation projects. It's critical, because by spending money on infrastructure, we show the locals that we are making their lives better. What they care about is security, water, food and shelter. If we can help them with those elements, they will see that we are a positive force, not just another invader. Then, when hostile elements try to kill some of the locals or some of us,

Equipped to Deal with Anything

From high-tech armoured vehicles and state-of-the-art radars to the very uniforms they wear, Canada's men and women in Afghanistan have been given the gear they need to stay safe and perform effectively.

Coyote

The Coyote is a highly mobile, well-armed and well-protected armoured vehicle that specializes in battlefield reconnaissance and

surveillance. Incorporating a combination of daylight camera, radar, thermal imaging and laser range-finding equipment, the Coyote's surveillance system provides all-weather, day-and-night observation capability.



ARTHUR

If hostile elements target Task Force Kabul, Canadian troops will be able to react at a moment's notice, thanks to their new Artillery Hunting Radar, or ARTHUR. A system that pinpoints the location of hostile artillery and mortars, ARTHUR also detects enemy projectiles as soon as they are fired and determines their point of origin.

UAV

Canadian commanders in Afghanistan are using a new surveillance drone to help keep track of possible threats. The unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) is a small, pilotless aircraft that is launched by catapult and can fly for up to five hours, within a 150-km radius. It uses electro-optical sensors to gather information and a datalink to pass it back to controllers on the ground.

perhaps the people we've helped will think twice before letting them. So, it's a force protection issue, as well as a desire to do good.

Q. *Afghanistan is still a very dangerous place. What are you doing to mitigate risks?*

A. We've spent a great deal of time and taxpayers' dollars training our soldiers in how to handle the worst-case scenario: having to fight. We also came up with a long list of equipment that we needed and got it all—some of it extremely expensive, but well worth the investment. Then there's the situational awareness that comes with experience. The majority of the soldiers have a couple of missions under their belts, so they're bringing to Kabul skill sets that they've learned in places like the Balkans. 🍁

For a full transcript of this interview please see www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-magazine.

To learn more about the participation of the Canadian Forces in ISAF, visit www.forces.gc.ca/site/operations/Athena/index_e.asp, and to see additional images of their work in Afghanistan visit www.combatcamera.forces.gc.ca.

Improved Land Mine Detection System

To deal with the constant threat of landmines, Canadian forces are relying on the Improved Land Mine Detection System. This Canadian-designed converted armoured personnel carrier uses a magnetic field to project an "imaginary vehicle" over the minefield to detonate buried landmines.

CADPAT

The "disruptive pattern combat uniform" that Canadian Forces are wearing in Afghanistan, called CADPAT, incorporates computer-generated colour patterns that provide excellent camouflage under field conditions. The uniforms have also been treated to reduce detection by near-infrared surveillance equipment.



photo: M1 pl Brian Walsh, Canadian Forces Combat Camera



Kabul gridlock

Keeping the Peace

Warrant Officer Sean Chase surveys the rubble that was formerly home to the Kabul Transportation Department. The building's roof has collapsed and cascades like a waterfall into the busy traffic circle across from the Kabul Zoo. "Where do you start?" he muses. "There is simply so much that has to be done."

Chase and the other 1,900 soldiers who make up Canada's Task Force Kabul are responsible for maintaining security in the western part of this city of three million. It's an area of 165 square kilometres, slightly larger than Saskatoon, encompassing both urban areas and rural villages.

Maintaining security means patrolling; within their first week on duty, the Canadians racked up an impressive 196 patrols, and they are keeping to that pace. Navigating military vehicles like the 10-ton LAV III armoured personnel carrier through the mayhem of Kabul gridlock can prove a challenge. Corporal Jay Alefi calls the traffic organized chaos. "The first time I saw it, I thought, you don't want to drive here—it's crazy."

Foot patrols also give the troops the vital advantage of better contact with the locals. "Maintaining positive relations with the citizens of Kabul is essential in order to achieve mission success," says Lieutenant Colonel Don Denne, commander of the Canadian battalion group. The troops are careful and conscious of potential dangers, but they work at being friendly as well as firm. What Denne refers to as "our smile and wave campaign" produces waves in return, and crowds of youngsters seem fascinated with the soldiers.

Good relations are further fostered by the Canadians' secondary focus, humanitarian work. Civil-military cooperation teams determine what the troops can do to help. Lack of clean water is a particular problem in Afghanistan, and Canadians have been busy installing well pumps in the communities around their base. In the longer term, new schools and irrigation systems are planned. And there is constant work for the army's explosives experts, especially with the dangerous task of making Kabul safe from the unexploded shells, grenades and mines that litter the countryside after a generation of war.

It is still early days for Task Force Kabul, but the results seem to be encouraging. "For the most part," says Denne, "the people of Kabul seem genuinely glad to have us here."

CANADIANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Two years ago when the world's attention was on the defeat of the Taliban, the focus of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) was on what would come next. For organizations and individuals working in the areas of humanitarian assistance and economic reconstruction, the challenge was—and is—to help countries to make the precarious voyage from war, through peacekeeping and peacebuilding, to sustainable peace, order and good government.

Afghanistan had been devastated by decades of war and natural disasters. Eighty percent of the population lives in rural areas, but much farmland was rendered unusable because of landmines and other destruction. Four years of drought added to the misery and starvation and contributed to abysmal health conditions. Maternal mortality was the second highest in the world and a quarter of all children died before their fifth birthday. Three quarters of the population had no access to safe drinking water. Schools were not functioning; hospitals were destroyed; roads were in ruin. There was no peace, no order and no government.

In a land with 50 ethnic groups and 32 languages, the challenge of creating a functioning government was immense, if not insurmountable. It was not easy to

communicate the message that help was at hand and that there was room for hope. CIDA is in the business of hope.

Canada was already familiar with Afghanistan. Throughout the Taliban era, CIDA had been independently providing some \$10-\$12 million annually in humanitarian assistance. Immediately following the crisis that began on September 11, 2001, Canada delivered \$16.5 million in humanitarian aid.

In December of that year, working with partners such as United Nations agencies, the World Bank, NGOs and other countries, Canada promised another \$100 million, and was proud to be among the very first to deliver assistance on the ground.

In a sense, CIDA was prepared for the Afghanistan crisis as a result of experience elsewhere in the world, in places like the Balkans, Rwanda and Somalia. A special team

Injecting Hope

It could save their lives, but these children don't exactly appreciate being vaccinated. Every year, millions of children around the globe die from vaccine-preventable diseases. Canada is a leader in the effort to prevent these tragedies through support for initiatives such as the World Health Organization's tuberculosis-control programs in Afghanistan.

Just the Other Side of the Fence

Refugees returning to Afghanistan face many challenges and barriers. The barbed wire fence at the Pol-é-charkhie refugee camp, south of Kabul, is the least of them. CIDA supports the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees through the United Nations High Commission for Refugees. The UNHCR contributes to assistance and protection for refugees and internally displaced people and helps their reintegration into their homeland.





Danger! Mines

They're putting their lives on the line for every step forward in the effort to rehabilitate the most mined country in the world. Through support for mine education, the mapping of mine fields and the removal of these deadly threats to life, limb and livelihood, Canada is playing a major role in demining Afghanistan. Globally, we also actively promote the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, known as the Ottawa Convention.



Silent Hopes

The lobby of this school is unusually quiet, in spite of the presence of students of all ages. Of the 40 students here, 30 are hearing impaired, and 10 are orphans. In war-torn Afghanistan, these boys and girls are among the most vulnerable. They are working to better their chances for a future in spite of the challenges they face. At the end of their 10-month carpentry training with the Hearing Impaired Foundation of Afghanistan, a CIDA-financed project, they will no doubt find jobs. Through the sign language that they are also learning, these children will provide a link between the hearing impaired and the rest of the community.



The Joy of Safe Drinking Water

You would smile too if a new well and hand pump were installed in your neighbourhood after years without access to safe drinking water. It's difficult to think of clean water as a luxury, but 77 percent of the population of Afghanistan goes without. Improving water quality contributes to improving community health. CIDA is helping the Rehabilitation Organization of Afghanistan to drill wells and install hand pumps in a rural district of Kabul, providing safe water to more than 5,000 families in the area.

was quickly put in place, coordinated closely with Foreign Affairs and International Trade, National Defence and other key partners.

First came humanitarian assistance to feed and clothe Afghans. Even today, some six million Afghans are still in need of food aid, so the crisis has by no means ended.

Next came basic reconstruction. The immense task of clearing mines has been accelerated, with strong Canadian support. Many roads have been rebuilt and water systems repaired. Yet these and other tasks are proving to be long-term challenges in a region still wracked with violence and uncertainty.

To help build a society where law and order can take root, CIDA has invested some \$18 million, working with partners such as the RCMP, Elections Canada, Justice Canada, various NGOs and most especially Afghans themselves, to nourish the seeds of a democratic tradition. Those seeds may bear fruit when elections are held, hopefully in mid-2004.

Because elected officials need a professional public service to function properly, \$58.5 million has been provided for the operating budget of the transitional government. A number of Afghan-Canadians have

returned to work in the transitional government, helping to establish modern practices and standards.

Overall, Canada has contributed \$300 million in humanitarian and development assistance to Afghanistan since 1990, and is providing a further \$250 million over the next two years. The programs funded by Canadians operate in an environment of risk, and the road to democracy is neither straight nor smooth. Enemies and difficulties are real. Success is not guaranteed.

Canada's contributions to rebuilding Afghanistan are not just monetary or advisory: the men and women working for CIDA and other Canadian, UN, non-governmental and local organizations are at great personal risk. But the risk of inaction is greater. ♣

To find out more about Canadians making a difference in the world through the Canadian International Development Agency as well as development programs in Afghanistan visit www.acdi-cida.gc.ca.

ON ASSIGNMENT:

"The Current" in Afghanistan

Anna Maria Tremonti is the host of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's program "The Current," heard nationally on CBC Radio One at 8:30 a.m. For four days in September, "The Current" broadcast from Kabul. *Canada World View* asked Ms. Tremonti to share some of her impressions of the Afghan capital.

First impressions

As soon as we landed, as we actually touched down, there was a reminder of how much war this city has seen. The airport tarmac is absolutely littered with fuselage and remnants of planes that were bombed or had crashed. As you drive into the city, you drive by crumbling buildings. Everywhere you look there's stuff that has fallen apart, and it's clear that it's been apart for a while. Right away you get the sense of a place that is very broken.

The mood of the city

At the same time, in the midst of all the crumbling, I got a sense of optimism. The markets are crammed and life goes on. You see people putting a new window in a building that is still three-quarters crumbled. They're creating their own little piece of shelter. You see people making do. You see optimism in the sense that they are getting on with their lives.



Anna Maria Tremonti in conversation with Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

The reconstruction process

The big worry that people in Kabul have is that we'll leave too soon. People really feel that they were abandoned once, which is why the country descended to what it did. They don't want to be abandoned again; they don't want people to forget that they need help. The place is not secure. There are a lot of different ways this country could go; it really is on an edge right now.

The people of Kabul

There was nothing but a willingness to talk to me if I wanted to talk to them. Even the women in burqas, when I asked them why they were still wearing a burqa when they were no longer imposed on them by law, not one of them was hostile, not one of them refused to answer. All of them thought about it and explained. I spent a lot of time talking to people on the street, people who had better things to do with their time, quite frankly, than to indulge a Canadian journalist with some dumb questions. But they were always polite about it. I didn't find that anyone was hostile to me for being a Westerner or for being a journalist.

A final word

For me, despite the devastation of the place, I could see how people fall in love with the city. I could understand the beauty that used to exist in this place. 🍁

For a full transcript of this interview please see www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-magazine.

To explore coverage of Afghanistan on "The Current" visit www.cbc.ca/thecurrent/afghanistan.html.

AFGHAN PRESIDENT VISITS OTTAWA

Afghan President Hamid Karzai visited Ottawa on September 27 for meetings with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham, Defence Minister John McCallum and Minister for International Cooperation Susan Whelan.

President Karzai acknowledged Canada's significant contributions to Afghanistan in the areas of defence, development and diplomacy. At the same time, he stressed the need for continued, long-term assistance.

Speaking with the CBC, President Karzai noted that Afghanistan needs "continued, sustained international help." Without that assistance, he said, "terrorism will keep affecting my country. It will keep making inroads into the peace and prosperity we're trying to build for our people, and eventually it will threaten the whole campaign that we have internationally against terrorism. That affected the world two years ago in such a dramatic, sad way [and] might affect it again.... It's not only for us... it's also for the rest of mankind." 🍁

TALKING TO OTTAWA:

Canadians Help Shape Their Foreign Policy

On January 22, 2003, Minister of Foreign Affairs Bill Graham asked Canadians to help shape the direction, priorities and choices for Canada's foreign policy through A Dialogue on Foreign Policy. The range of public consultations included the following:

- Minister Graham's participation in 15 town hall meetings across Canada;
- the distribution of more than 12,000 copies of the booklet on the Dialogue paper;
- 19 expert round tables in different parts of the country;
- a Dialogue Web site, which provided up-to-date access to weekly summaries of contributions, video interviews with experts and results of the expert round tables;
- formal meetings with provincial and territorial governments;
- hearings by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade;
- reports from community discussions held in cities across Canada;
- the participation of Ministers Pierre Pettigrew (International Trade), Susan Whelan (International Cooperation), John McCallum (National Defence), David Anderson (Environment), and Secretary of State Jean Augustine (Multiculturalism) (Status of Women) in meetings on issues related to their portfolios; and
- the organization of the March 2003 National Forum for Youth on the theme *The Next Canada: The World We Want*.

Full details of the Dialogue on Foreign Policy process and its results can be found at:

www.foreign-policy-dialogue.ca 🍁

THE VIEW FROM THE TOP

Mark MacGuigan's posthumously published memoirs about his two and a half years as Secretary of State for External Affairs are a frank and affectionate look at the old Department of External Affairs from a 10th floor perspective. In clear and direct prose, Mr. MacGuigan combines anecdote and recollection with thoughtful reflection to explore the domestic and international constraints on ministerial policy making.

Mr. MacGuigan constantly examines his relationship with his prime minister, Pierre Trudeau. His critical portrait is refreshingly candid: while he acknowledges Trudeau's "overpowering intellect," he is quick to condemn his "facile" anti-Americanism and

abrasive political style. Mr. MacGuigan has a good eye for character, and his surprisingly sympathetic portrait of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and sharp sketches of other world leaders of the early 1980s are also well worth reading.

Like Mr. Trudeau, Mr. MacGuigan was a cool and self-reflective rationalist, who came to office in March 1980 convinced that a country's foreign policy ought to be dictated primarily by its national interest. Neither international law nor morality, he thought, provides much of a basis for a country's foreign policy. And in this short study, he sets out to explain how his diplomacy—in virtually every corner of the globe and across a host of issue

areas—served and advanced Canada's national interest.

Throughout this book of memoirs, there is much evidence of Mr. MacGuigan's close and warm relationship with the officers who served him. He was never a captive of his bureaucracy and, as such, he enjoyed challenging the carefully considered opinions of his officials and shaping policy according to his own views. As a parliamentarian and minister, he only sought for himself what he sought for all Canadians: "a world of creative freedom." 🍁

AN INSIDE
LOOK AT
EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS
DURING THE
TRUDEAU
YEARS

Edited by P. Whitney Lackenbauer. Foreword by Paul C. Martin.
THE MEMOIRS OF MARK MACGUIGAN

P. Whitney Lackenbauer (ed.), *An Inside Look at External Affairs during the Trudeau Years: The Memoirs of Mark MacGuigan*, (Calgary, University of Calgary Press, 2002), 208 pages \$34.95

A longer version of this review first appeared in *Bout de Papier*



PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES UN

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien addressed the United Nations General Assembly on the occasion of the opening of its 58th session on September 23, speaking on “the responsibility to protect.” The following are excerpts from his speech.

As you all know, Canada has always

believed in multilateral approaches to global opportunities and problems. We believe in this multilateral cooperation not as an ideology, but as a proven way to enhance security and solve over-arching problems.

Multilateral cooperation is indispensable to ensuring the well-being of citizens and protecting them effectively from harm.

On no issue is progress more necessary or more difficult than the protection of the innocent.

Canada, in partnership with others, advocates putting the protection of

people at the heart of the mandate of this organization.

Too often, conflicts are allowed to ignite, even when the whole world can see what the dreadful consequences will be. Too often, innocent civilians are left to their fate.

The most fundamental duty of a state is to protect its people. When a government cannot—or will not—do so, the responsibility to protect them becomes temporarily a collective international responsibility.

We believe...that in the face of large-scale loss of life or ethnic cleansing, the international community has a moral responsibility to protect the vulnerable. The primary

purpose must be to avert and end human suffering.

No entity is more appropriate than the UN Security Council to authorize military action to protect the innocent. But the member states of the Council have sometimes failed the innocent. Past failures must motivate us to prepare better for future crises. We can reform how this place works. Improve its effectiveness. Enhance its relevance. Inspire its participants. ♣

For the full text of the Prime Minister's UN address please see: www.pm.gc.ca.

REACHING OUT TO CANADIANS AND THE WORLD

The Campbellton *Tribune* in northern New Brunswick is a typical Canadian community newspaper, its pages filled with reports on local people and events usually found in a weekly publication with a circulation of under 5,000. Recently, however, its readers have been finding articles typically seen in major dailies, with titles such as “Canada and Afghanistan.” The change stems from briefings by senior officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), attended by a group of

community newspaper journalists from across the country, including *Tribune* Editor Bill Clarke. The briefings were organized by DFAIT's Outreach and Public Affairs section, part of the Department's Communications Bureau.

The task of the Outreach section is to show Canadians how international events affect their lives and to explain Canada to non-Canadians. To do this, it organizes visits to Canada by foreign opinion leaders, speaking tours across Canada by DFAIT experts, and programs for regional and ethnic media and journalism schools in Canada.

The effort to explain Canada's mission in Afghanistan is a good

example of the work Outreach does. While the Media Outreach Program gave briefings on Afghanistan, the section's Foreign Visitors Program provided senior fellows from Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs with information on Canada's foreign policy approach in Afghanistan. In addition, experts from DFAIT, DND and CIDA participated in a community briefing in Toronto, organized by the section's Speakers Program and involving members of the academic world, the Canadian Afghan community, think-tanks and the mainstream media. ♣



CANADA, TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

The results of the Ministerial meeting in Cancun, Mexico, are a clear signal that Canada must redouble its efforts to encourage consensus on strengthening the multilateral trading system.

The past 50 years have seen exceptional growth in world trade. Technological innovation and the international movement of people, goods and services are faster, easier and less expensive. The modern trading system needs modern rules to keep pace with these changes and to ensure the inclusion of all trading nations. Member countries of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are negotiating to ensure the continued existence of such a fair and transparent trading system.

With 146 member countries—soon to be 148 with the entry of the first two least-developed countries, Cambodia and Nepal—the WTO works to ensure that trade flows smoothly, predictably and more freely, ensuring that all members have the opportunity to benefit from the increased opportunities and welfare gains generated by the global trading system.

Canada has a strong interest in a healthy global economy. Trade is central to our economic future. It opens up new markets for Canadian exporters and producers, creates employment opportunities at home, and ensures the health and future of our economy. Mutually beneficial trade rules also increase the chances for global peace and stability.

At the meeting in Cancun held September 10 to 14, Canada and

the other WTO members worked to continue progress on the ambitious global trade agenda negotiated in November 2001 at Doha, Qatar, an agenda that holds the promise of significant benefits for Canadians and for citizens throughout the developed and developing world.

Despite enormous effort on the part of WTO members, the Cancun meeting closed without a full mid-term review because of different levels of ambition for the current round of trade talks, called the Doha Development Agenda. But Canada's objectives for this round have not changed. Our particular interests remain fundamental agricultural reform, improved market access for goods and services, improved trade rules, and helping developing countries integrate into the global economy.

Canada's Minister for International Trade, Pierre Pettigrew, says the Canadian approach is the right one. "Canada is disappointed with the result of the Ministerial meeting, but we will continue to work on getting the agenda back on track and keeping our eyes on the prize we all seek: a balanced and equitable global trading system that benefits Canada's economy and aids the developing world."

The results of the Ministerial meeting are a clear signal that we must redouble our efforts to engage all WTO members in moving forward



Canada hosted an informal meeting of trade ministers from 24 countries—more than half from developing nations—in Montreal last summer to prepare the ground for the WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancun, Mexico. At table (left to right): Amir Khosru Chowdhury, Minister of Commerce of Bangladesh; Mark Vaile, Minister for Trade of Australia; Roberto Lavagna, Minister of Economy and Production of Argentina; Pierre Pettigrew, Minister for International Trade of Canada; Supachai Panitchpakdi, Director General of the WTO; Carlos Pérez del Castillo, Chair of the WTO General Council.

and finding consensus in the months ahead. Canada remains fully engaged in the Doha Round of negotiations and the strengthening of the multilateral trading system.

The Doha Development Agenda round is far from over. WTO members agree that the evolution of the multilateral trading system is one of the best hopes that all countries have to build their economies and societies. Canada will continue to work with partners toward the ambitious outcome we seek to these negotiations. ♣

For more information on Canada and the World Trade Organization please see www.wto.gc.ca.

PUPPETS FOR PEACE



A bold new television production shows children in the Middle East positive images of themselves and their neighbours.

The Government of Canada is encouraging the use of television as a tool to promote a culture of peace in a region steeped in conflict. Through its Human Security Program, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade is providing funding for a new educational television series that will help create a climate of tolerance and understanding among Israeli, Palestinian and Jordanian children.

The new series, called *Sesame Stories*, is the work of the world-famous Sesame Workshop, creators of "Sesame Street." Produced with Palestinian, Israeli and Jordanian partners, the series consists of 26 episodes for each of the three regions in which it will be broadcast—Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, and Jordan.

Aimed at children aged four to seven, *Sesame Stories* was created to encourage mutual respect and understanding. Using a combination of an animated story and live-action film, each episode presents a core theme such as empathy, accepting differences and resolving conflicts peacefully. The stories explore and explain cultures, letting children gain an understanding both of themselves and of others. By presenting positive images of all children in the region, the series will help children feel more tolerant and respectful of the diversity both within and outside their societies. It will also provide children with alternatives to violence, making them feel more optimistic and hopeful about their futures.

"Sesame Stories will deliver hope to millions of children every day," says Gary E. Knell, President and CEO of Sesame Workshop. "Through the involvement of our partners—HOP TV in Tel Aviv, Al Quds University in Ramallah and Jordan Pioneers in Amman—we will continue to work toward creating a culture of peace."

The new production builds on previous success. For the past eight years, Sesame Workshop has been co-producing a children's educational television program with Israeli and Palestinian partners. That series premiered in 1998 and was viewed by

thousands of Jewish Israeli, Arab Israeli and Palestinian children. The series has helped Palestinian and Israeli children learn more about their own and others' languages and culture. This in turn has helped to break cultural stereotypes.

The Canadian funding will be used to develop educational materials and a community outreach program that will help reinforce and extend the goals of the series beyond the television viewing experience. Designed for use in a variety of educational settings, including the home, these materials will include "tolerance kits," teachers' guides, home videos, posters and storybooks.

Sesame Stories premiered in Israel in September, and broadcasts in Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza followed in October. The show's producers are hopeful that it will contribute to a better future in the Middle East, and are looking forward to more projects in the region.

"Providing relevant media content to the Middle East is a long-term commitment for Sesame Workshop and our partners," says Knell. "We've only just begun." ♦



CLARKSON TAKES CANADIAN CULTURE "UP OVER"

The Governor General of Canada, Adrienne Clarkson, recently made state visits to Russia, Finland and Iceland. With a delegation that included some of the country's most dynamic writers, playwrights and other artists, promoting our modern ties wasn't the only item on the viceregal agenda.

When Canadians think of their neighbours, they tend to look to the United States and Mexico. This is not surprising, given that the majority of Canadians live within an hour's drive of a U.S. town and often holiday on sunny Mexican beaches. Equally close, but a little harder to reach for the average Canadian, are those countries dotted around the Arctic Circle.

These northern neighbours may not be as important economically as those to the south, but they share many things with us: geography, climate, a sensitive environment and indigenous peoples who have an important contribution to make to northern societies. For these reasons, they play an important role in the "northern dimension" of Canada's foreign relations. They are also prime markets for Canada's complex and varied culture.

Since her appointment in 1999, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson has placed great emphasis on the promotion of Canada's north as well

as highlighting the country's dynamic novelists, poets, playwrights, musicians, filmmakers, dancers and visual artists.

On her latest tour, from September 23 to October 15, 2003, the Governor General addressed both of these priorities. The delegation included such prominent cultural figures as choreographer Edouard Locke, playwright René-Daniel Dubois, award-winning writers Michael Ondaatje and Yann Martel and filmmaker Denys Arcand. Among the many cultural events was the commercial premiere of Mr. Arcand's *Les Invasions barbares* at the Central House of Writers in Moscow.

"All of the delegates gave up their time to travel with her to show the world the creative face of Canada through performance, discussions and interviews in the host countries," says Stewart Wheeler, Press Secretary to the Governor General. "Some are from the world of the arts, some from the fields of business, architecture, wine-making and education. What they have in common is that they are all known nationally—and many internationally—for their wide-ranging achievements."

These distinguished leaders in their fields help create new interest and excitement about Canada's modern identity, something that may not be achieved as easily through standard diplomacy.

"We Canadians have come to see, to learn and to get to know this new Russia, and for you to get to know us better," Mme. Clarkson told a



Governor General Clarkson and filmmaker Denys Arcand (seated) appear with host Andrei Kozlov on a nationally televised Russian talk show to discuss Canadian and Russian filmmaking and to promote Arcand's *Les Invasions barbares*.

state dinner in Moscow given by Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation. "Because of the geographic distance between us, we risk losing sight of where, and in what ways, our societies are evolving, our aspirations changing, our cultures adapting to the new circumstances of the modern world. But we should not ever lose sight of one another—certainly not as friends, as fellow northerners, as peoples of vast lands and open spaces."

In 2004, the Governor General will continue her theme of the modern North with state visits to Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Greenland. ♣

You can learn about the Governor General and state visits, read about circumpolar countries and participate in an online forum called the "Quest for a Modern North" at www.gg.ca.

IN BRIEF

Ensemble Noir: promoting Canadian culture and values in a new partnership with Africa.

Ensemble Noir Opens Doors in Africa

Toronto contemporary classical group Ensemble Noir made its first-ever tour of Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa this past summer with the help of cosponsorship by the Canadian government.

"This African tour by Ensemble Noir demonstrates Canada's commitment to promoting Canadian culture and values in a new partnership with Africa," said Jean Augustine, Secretary of State (Multiculturalism) (Status of Women). "Culture influences the way people see Canada and is an important element of Canadian foreign policy."

Led by award-winning South Africa-born composer and conductor Bongani Ndodana, the seven-member

ensemble combines contemporary Western and African music as it performs sounds, rhythms and melodies of traditional African music using Western orchestral instruments. For this historic tour, entitled "Open Doors," Ensemble Noir featured new music by composers from Africa and Canada, including J.H. Kwabena Nketia and Akin Euba, both deans of African classical music.

Canada Contributes to Landmine Education

Canada is contributing \$100,000 to a United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) mine-risk education project in Cambodia.

Cambodia is one of the most heavily mine-affected areas in the

world. The Canadian financing for UNICEF Cambodia will help bring mine-risk education into school curriculums, teacher training and non-formal peer education. The program will help to build knowledge and skills to deal with the threats posed by unexploded landmines.

For more information on Canada's support for landmine action visit www.mines.gc.ca/menu-en.asp.

Canada Makes Inroads in Europe for Wine and Spirits Industry

A new agreement between Canada and the European Union on wines and spirits will significantly open the European market to Canadian products. The agreement was signed

National Arts Centre Orchestra on Tour

Classical met high tech in the National Arts Centre (NAC) Orchestra's tour of Mexico and the United States this fall.

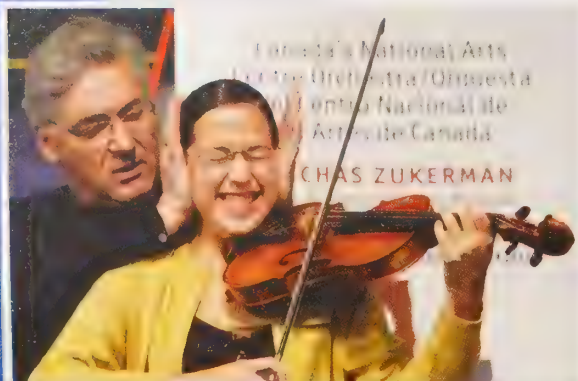
In Mexico, the orchestra performed in Monterrey and Mexico City and at the Cervantino Festival in Guanajuato,

the most prestigious cultural festival in Latin America. U.S. appearances included stops in New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Miami and Philadelphia. Led by Pinchas Zukerman as both conductor and soloist, the orchestra presented works by Beethoven, Schubert and Mozart, as well as a major new work by Canadian composer Denys Bouliane.

During the tour, supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade through a \$250,000 travel grant, Maestro Zukerman and musicians from the orchestra also led an ambitious range of master classes, lectures, workshops and sectional rehearsals at leading educational institutions.

The tour was every bit as modern as it was classical. The orchestra coordinated its touring, recording and publishing, linking a growing CD catalogue, cutting-edge Internet projects, and a series of acclaimed study guides.

In Monterrey, the orchestra presented innovative educational activities using Internet video conferencing technology. Schools in Canada, the U.S. and Mexico were linked through the NAC's next-generation Internet facility. Orchestra members also posted diary entries in Web journals on the NAC's highly successful youth Web site, www.ArtsAlive.ca. 🍁



Master class: Pinchas Zukerman teaches on tour in Monterrey, Mexico.



photo: Simon Plaxton



CALENDAR

during a ceremony held September 16 at Inniskillin Wines in the Niagara Peninsula.

"This is a win for Canada, it's a win for Europe and, most of all, it's a win for wine and spirits producers and consumers in both of our regions, who can now look forward to more trade opportunities and a greater variety of choice than in the past," said Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief.

FIERA
INTERNAZIONALE
DEL LIBRO
TORINO

Celebrating Canadian Books

Canada was the celebrated country at this year's Turin International Book Fair.

This honour is a sign of the success that Canada has had over the past 20 years in developing export markets for its books.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to increase understanding of Canadian culture and our diverse population abroad," said Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham in announcing Canada's role as guest of honour in Turin. "Recognition of our splendid authors does much to establish Canada's distinctive identity around the world and to showcase our strengths as a country."

Canada was represented by authors Nadine Bismuth, André Charpentier, Douglas Cooper, Derrick de Kerckhove, Margaret Doody, Carole Fioramore-David, Joe Fiorito, Karen Levine, Alistair MacLeod, Alberto Manguel, Yann Martel, Nino Ricci, Nancy Richler, John Ralston Saul, Richard Scrimger, Gaétan Soucy, Drew Hayden Taylor and Larry Tremblay, among others.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

NOVEMBER

November 20-21
Free Trade Area of the Americas Ministerial Meeting
Miami, U.S.A.

DECEMBER

December 1-2
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Ministerial Meeting
Maastricht, Netherlands

December 2-6
28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
Geneva, Switzerland

December 4-5
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Foreign Ministers Meeting
Brussels, Belgium

December 5-8
Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
Abuja, Nigeria

December 10-12
UN World Summit on the Information Society
Geneva, Switzerland

December 17
Canada-EU Summit (Italy)
Ottawa, Ontario

JANUARY 2004

January 12-13
Special Summit of the Americas
Monterrey, Mexico

January 21-25
World Economic Forum
Davos, Switzerland

CULTURE AND CANADIAN STUDIES

NOVEMBER

November 20-29
52nd Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival
Mannheim and Heidelberg, Germany

November 20-30
16th International Documentary Film Festival
Amsterdam, Netherlands

November 28-30
Canadian Aboriginal Festival
Toronto, Ontario

November 29-December 7
Guadalajara International Book Fair
Guadalajara, Mexico

DECEMBER

December 3-5
Asia Television Forum
Singapore

December 4-7
Art Basel Miami Beach
Miami Beach, U.S.A.

December 5-21
Salon des métiers d'art du Québec
Montreal, Quebec

JANUARY 2004

January 30-February 7
26th Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival
Clermont-Ferrand, France

The Tomb of the Father of the Nation in Kabul shows the destructive impact of decades of conflict on Afghanistan.

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photo: Michel Daniloff, Canadian Forces Combat Camera

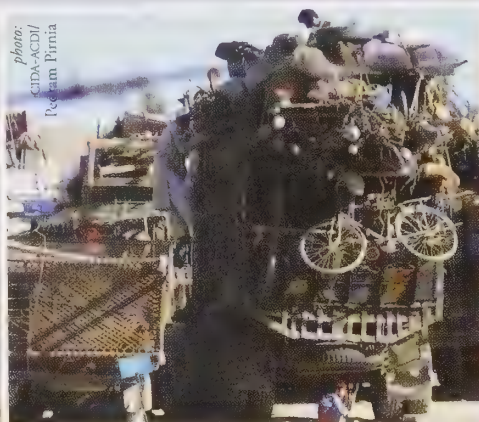


photo: CIDP-ACDI
Pedram Pirnia



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Canada World View

ISSUE 21 • WINTER-SPRING 2004

Africa Forging a future

Stephen Lewis:
Canada's Moral
Imperative

The Commonwealth
Scholarship at 40

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Canada World View provides an overview of Canada's perspective on foreign policy issues and highlights the Government of Canada's international initiatives and contributions. *Canada World View* is published quarterly in English and French by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

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Our cover

In Torrolo, Ghana, a plant supported by Canadian development assistance produces replacement parts for machinery used in mining and farming that would otherwise have to be imported. The Ghana Regional Appropriate Technology Industrial Service was established to promote small-scale industrial growth, improve incomes and employment opportunities and enhance the development of Ghana, which is a country of focus for Canada.

photo: CIDA/ACDI Photo & Images

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ABOUT THIS ISSUE

In the last two issues of *Canada World View*, we asked you to let us know what you think of and want from this publication: its ability to present Canada's foreign policy, represent its cultural and linguistic diversity and document its international programs and activities. We were pleased by how many took the time to send us such thoughtful replies. Readers appreciate the magazine's presentation of Canada's international involvement and foreign policy, its concise writing, attractive layout, theme issues and diverse topics. You want more balanced and in-depth coverage of a range of topics, personal stories of Canadians abroad and perspective not available elsewhere.

Beginning with this issue of *Canada World View*, almost entirely devoted to Canada's initiatives in and relationship with Africa, you will see the results of some of your comments and suggestions. Our theme responds to the results of a recent national survey undertaken by this Department in which Canadians identified Africa as being vitally important to Canada (29 percent of respondents identified the region as mattering most to them, only slightly less than those who chose the Americas). Two years after the G8 Summit at Kananaskis, we examine what's happening on the ground in Africa—and look critically at what more there is to do. We bring you into courtrooms, refugee camps, university campuses, a Canadian High Commission and even to outer space to see first-hand Canada's international contributions and initiatives. We highlight Canada's unique cultural ties to Africa, including a long literary tradition that has produced critically acclaimed new works. And to start, we present a new feature, ViewPoint, which provides some additional perspective on Canada's world view.

Many thanks for offering yours.

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A VISION FOR CANADA IN THE WORLD

When Paul Martin became Prime Minister of Canada last December, he identified three priorities for his incoming government. The first is strengthening the social foundations of Canada. The second is building a modern, efficient economy. The third—and for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the most central—is ensuring a place of “influence and pride” for Canada in the world.

For Mr. Martin, who fondly recalls the role his father played as Minister of External Affairs in the government of Lester Pearson in the 1960s, it is imperative that Canada be an active, engaged citizen of the world. For

him, this means understanding, first and foremost, the power and impulses of the United States, our closest neighbour and friend. But it also means running a *global* foreign policy that supports multi-lateral institutions (which Canada helped to found and shape) and that is alive to commerce and trade (which generates about a third of our wealth).

“Canada is best when we exercise a strong and independent voice in the world,” said the Prime Minister, a view that will shape what his government does abroad. In fact, when he and his new cabinet were sworn in on December 12,

the government announced that it would conduct the most comprehensive review of the country’s foreign and defence policies in a generation. At the same time, it announced that it would restructure the machinery of government, establishing new cabinet committees and creating a separate Department of International Trade.

“Canadians want their country to play a distinctive and independent role in making the world more secure,

“Canadians want their country to play a distinctive and independent role in making the world more secure, more peaceful, more cooperative, more open. They want to see Canada’s place of pride and influence in the world restored.”

Speech from the Throne

The Canadian
Peacekeeping
Monument in
Ottawa.



A kindergarten in Mali is improved through Canadian aid



more peaceful, more cooperative, more open," the Government said in its Speech from the Throne in February. "They want to see Canada's place of pride and influence in the world restored."

The international review will try to find the ways and means of doing that. Broader than previous reviews, it will be comprehensive and integrated, looking at all elements of Canada's internationalism—defence, diplomacy, aid and trade—and how they fit together. This integration reflects more recent trends such as the "3D approach" (see *Canada World View* Issue 20), which is bringing unprecedented levels of coordination among government departments and agencies involved in diplomacy, defence and development in Afghanistan.

Still, why this? And why now? The review is essential today because the world has changed dramatically in recent years. The last time Canada examined its foreign policy in any way was in 1994, as the world was still adjust-

ing to the fall of Communism and the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Now, since the attacks on September 11, we are adjusting to the rise of terrorism. New perils, challenges and uncertainties have emerged—and they demand new answers.

A year ago, Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham launched a Dialogue on Foreign Policy, a discussion that took place in 15 town hall meetings across the country, in round tables, through the Internet, in formal

hearings, and among youth and community groups. Canadians expressed their desire for an engaged, committed presence in the world.

Now the review will examine how to address what Canadians told us they want. It will look at the scope and impact of international aid; the future of the Canadian military, its new roles and the resources it will need; the new challenges of dealing with the United States as it wages war against terrorism around the world; the commitment to public diplomacy as Canada promotes



Canadian assistance brings electric motor recycling to Senegal.

its culture and values; and the enhancement of trade and commerce.

In the near future, the government is expected to act in areas that don't require a review, such as providing inexpensive medicines to combat disease in the developing world, establishing the ambitious Canada Corps and supporting the reform of international institutions, especially the United Nations, which is still organized in much the same way as it was when established in 1945.

In setting a new course for Canada in the world, of course, the greatest challenge will be matching the rhetoric with available resources. Strengthening the military, increasing international assistance and expanding our representation abroad will not happen without cost, time and effort. In the long run, the country will have to make choices, and they will not always be easy. ♣



Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham meets UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

The New Team

As part of the commitment to strengthen Canada's influence in the world, the foreign affairs and international trade portfolios are being reorganized. A distinct Department of International Trade is being created to provide support for integrated federal trade and investment promotion. The Minister of International Trade is now supported by a new Minister of State (New and Emerging Markets). Expanded roles for parliamentary secretaries include a focus on Canadians abroad and resource promotion. A Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister with special emphasis on Canada-U.S. relations has also been appointed. Please visit the DFAIT Web site at www.dfaite-maeci.gc.ca for up-to-date information on these changes.

"PHOTO OPS ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR POLITICAL WILL"

Prime Minister Paul Martin delivered a keynote address to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, on January 23, 2004, speaking on "The Future of Global Interdependence." The following are excerpts.

At its best, which is not always the case, the domestic political process is open and full of energy. It is about making the right choices among competing interests and priorities, choices that reflect the way ahead. Debates and trade-offs occur—in our cabinets, in our legislatures, in town halls with our citizens. Eventually decisions are reached.

When we look at the international scene, it is strangely unpolitical. To a remarkable extent, the dialogue among nations is technocratic and indirect rather than open and free ranging. It is often concerned more with preserving a process than with breaking new ground. It is a dialogue that, in the great international meetings, too often proceeds from set pieces read aloud, meetings that are closed to consultation from the outside—and far too frequently closed to new ideas. This is not to say progress doesn't occur. It's just that it is so painfully slow.

The debate between political leaders must be lifted from the page—must go from *pro forma* to real commitment. We have to broaden our traditional ideas about the responsibilities of sovereign states, not only the responsibilities of rich nations toward poor ones, but of all countries to each other.

The first obligation of sovereign states is to their own citizens. That is clear. But even just to do that properly in an interdependent world, states have to be engaged beyond their borders. Further, all states today have a real and legitimate stake in the welfare of other countries, and that confers a special obligation on political leaders to make our international systems work for the welfare of all.

We need multilateral institutions that work. Not as ideological ends in themselves, but as indispensable instruments of national well-being. No one nation can manage the consequences of interdependence on its own. We can work with our neighbours, with our friends and allies, with our regional and global partners. But work together we must.

The problem with many of today's international organizations is that they are not designed to facilitate the kinds of informal political debates that must occur. The mandates, structures and voting procedures of the UN system largely reflect the geopolitical landscape that emerged from World War II. If they are not reformed to reflect today's realities and tomorrow's challenges, they will be increasingly bypassed.

Very occasional meetings across a divide are not what I'm suggesting. If you believe, as we do in Canada, that progress on these tough issues is in everybody's interest, then we have to get the right mix of countries into the same room at the same time, and most importantly on a regular yet informal basis. We need some soul searching, some head knocking, and—above all else—some honest talk about what kind of world we want five or 10 or 20 years down the road. We are not going to do that with 100 countries around the table—nor in small groups, if leaders are absent.

In short, photo ops are no substitute for political will. Political leaders must work with each other internationally the way they work at home, when they work well—debating, exploring, searching for value-driven solutions that are inclusive rather than divisive, stabilizing rather than destructive, pragmatic rather than ideological.

We all have a stake in seeing international systems work well, and I firmly believe they cannot work unless they work for all the people of the world. If we fail to make interdependence work, the consequence will be dire and our children and grandchildren will rightly lay the blame at our feet. 🍁

For the full text of the Prime Minister's address see www.pm.gc.ca.



TAKING ACTION ON AFRICA

At their Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta in 2002, leaders of the G8 countries pledged to support a groundbreaking initiative to rebuild Africa. Nearly two years later, Canada is achieving concrete results in policy forums, long-range programs—and on the ground.

In July 2001, at the G8 Summit in Genoa, Italy, a group of African leaders presented a bold vision to transform their continent from poverty to prosperity. Unlike earlier strategies, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was a made-in-Africa approach that promised to hold the continent's leaders accountable before their people—and the world—for their progress. "Africans declare that we will no longer allow ourselves to be conditioned by circumstance," they stated. "We will determine our own destiny and call on the rest of the world to complement our efforts."

G8 leaders, led by Canada, welcomed the new initiative at their next Summit in Kananaskis, where they approved the Africa Action Plan, a package of more than 100 commitments that addresses such NEPAD priorities as governance, peace and security, education and health, agriculture and water, and trade and investment. "NEPAD represents the best chance in a generation to further Africa's development," says Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham. "Canada is leading the international community in responding to this opportunity."

At Kananaskis, the Canadian government launched a number of initiatives in support of the G8 plan, including the \$500-million Canada Fund for Africa, which is focusing on stimulating economic growth and innovation, strengthening African institutions and improving the well-being of African peoples.

A commitment to Africa

Canada's renewed commitment to Africa began long before Kananaskis. In September 2000, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) launched the Social Development Priorities, a five-year plan to increase support for programming in health and nutrition, basic education, HIV/AIDS and child protection. The plan was partly a response to the United Nations Millennium Development



Canada's Right To Play program: teaching leadership and coaching skills and delivering health messages to young Africans.

Goals, a road map to measure the commitment of both donors and developing countries to halve global poverty by 2015. To that end, Canada committed to doubling its investment in basic education in Africa to \$48 million. At Kananaskis this commitment was again doubled to \$100 million by 2005.

In March 2002, at the International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico, Canada committed to increasing official development assistance by at least 8 percent every year, doubling the level of Canadian aid by the end of the decade, with half of the new funds allocated to Africa. Canada has also been a leader in debt relief, enabling African governments to devote precious resources to services and economic growth.

At Kananaskis, with the new Canada Fund for Africa and with increases in aid announced at Monterrey, Canada had committed \$6 billion in new and existing resources for Africa over a five-year period. In addition, in the spirit of improving market access, Canada committed to extending duty-free and quota-free access to most imports from the 48 countries the UN calls "least developed countries," 34 of which are in Africa. Moreover, in December 2002, as part of its commitment to strengthen aid effectiveness, CIDA singled out six low-income African countries for additional aid investment: Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Senegal and Tanzania.

Now Canada's commitments to Africa are generating concrete results in a broad range of areas, from political and economic governance and social development to



AFRICA BY NUMBER

Challenge

- 1 in 2 Africans lives on less than US\$1 a day.
- 45 million African children are not in school.
- More than 26.6 million people are HIV positive.
- 1 in 5 Africans is affected by conflict.
- 14 countries suffer water scarcity; 11 more will join them by 2025.
- About 500 million hectares of land, 65% of it agricultural, has suffered soil degradation since 1950.
- Africa has 13% of the world's population, but about 2% of global trade and 1% of global investments.



Sierra Leone
refugee camp

photo: CIDA-ACDI/Clive Shirley

human security. "Canadians can take pride that they are making a difference in Africa," says Aileen Carroll, Minister for International Cooperation. "There are prospects for real change."

Health

Relatively small investments in primary health care, proper nutrition, clean water and adequate sanitation can reap huge dividends, reducing poverty and improving quality of life. Canada supports such efforts in Africa and is working with other donors and partners on larger-scale programs in areas such as HIV/AIDS research and the eradication of polio. The Canada Fund for Africa is providing \$50 million to support the work of the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative and the African AIDS Vaccine Programme, and a further \$50 million toward the goal of eradicating polio by 2005.

While physical health is crucial for quality of life, emotional well-being is equally important. An international organization based in Toronto called Right To Play is using sport to teach leadership and coaching skills and deliver health messages to young Africans in refugee camps.

Together with two colleagues from Austria and Australia, Right To Play volunteer Grace Miskiewicz ran workshops in Sierra Leone for six months last year for refugees fleeing the violence in neighbouring Liberia. One young woman left a particularly strong impression. "Doris had a disability and walked with a stick for a crutch," Miskiewicz recalls. "When we started the workshops, she was quiet and unsure of herself. You could see her gaining confidence slowly. By the end, she was playing Ultimate Frisbee and volleyball. Nothing stopped her."

Progress

- Since 1990, 42 of the 49 countries in sub-Saharan Africa have held multi-party elections.
- Tanzania is surpassing its enrolment targets for primary-school-age children and has built some 16,000 new classrooms and more than 2,000 houses for teachers.
- In Uganda, the HIV infection rate has dropped from 14% to less than 8% in the last decade as a result of a national prevention and education program.
- After generations of conflict over water, 10 countries bordering the Nile River have come together to manage this precious resource for the benefit of all, especially the poorest, and the environment that sustains them.



Young student
in Niger

photo: CIDA-ACDI/Roger LeMayne

Source: *New Vision, New Partnership, The Canada Fund for Africa, 2004*

photo: Satellite image
taken by RADARSAT-1
Canadian Space Agency

For Miskiewicz, too, the experience was enriching. "I saw how so many people in the developing world have so many skills and capacities already. They just need some support and resources."

Education and digital opportunities

The needs in terms of education are daunting. Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in the world where the number of children out of school is increasing. To achieve the goal of universal primary education by 2015, the region needs nearly 80 million new places in schools. In countries that have eliminated primary school fees, the influx of previously out-of-school children is crippling. In Kenya, average class sizes have risen to 120 from 40.



Computers in schools: harnessing the opportunities offered by technology.

Canada is helping to meet the challenge. Having doubled its support for basic education in Africa, Canada has allocated \$35 million for initiatives to help Africa take advantage of information and communications technologies for economic and social development. One of these, Connectivity Africa, managed by Canada's International Development Research Centre, supports innovative uses of technology through several projects, including a program called Computers for Schools Kenya.

Inspired by Computers for Schools Canada, an Industry Canada initiative launched in 1993 to solicit surplus computers from government and the private sector, refurbish and then distribute them free to schools, the program has provided about 1,000 computers to some 50 Kenyan schools and other institutions, including a home for street children.

"Africans are determined to harness the opportunities offered by technology," says Computers for Schools Kenya coordinator Tom Musili. Apart from supplying refurbished computers, the program has developed related curriculums, trained teachers and principals in the recipient schools and offered instruction at the Kenya Science Teachers College, with good results.

"The students are quite responsive," says Daniel Muturi, a teacher at Naivasha Day Secondary School in Nairobi. "There are students who are very eager to learn."

Agriculture and water

Most of Africa's poor depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. For the architects of NEPAD, improved agricultural performance means not only promoting food security, but also planting the seeds of economic development. Canada has revitalized its support for agriculture in many

A CONTINENT IN FLAMES

When Irish rock star Bono appeared in Toronto last fall, he had a provocative message for Canadians and the rest of the world about working together to help solve Africa's problems. *Canada World View* provides excerpts of what this "rock star with a conscience" had to say.

These are nervous times; they're dangerous times. Things are falling apart, really, for the unlucky many who have to survive on less than a dollar a day. But also for us, the lucky few, because, whether we like it or not, our fate is bound up in their futures.

We need to understand what's going on here. Let's stop for a second to remind ourselves that six and a half thousand Africans died today from a preventable, treatable disease called AIDS. Six and a half thousand died yesterday, and six and a half thousand will die tomorrow. Every day, without a

break for Christmas. That's more people than in this whole room. This is not just a rock star's pet cause, this is an emergency, and this is really why I'm here. Africa is a continent in flames. And, as we all know, fires tend to spread.

Canada is a country that's starting to do something about this. Some of you may know that there's a move to get cheap generic drugs from here to Africa. This is great news. If you follow through on this promise, other countries will have to follow you. This is great news.

In his Nobel address, the great Lester Pearson said that "poverty and distress—especially with the awakening of the submerged millions of Asia and Africa—make the risks of war truly greater." And I would like to add to that the risks of terror. AIDS creates a vacuum. And in that vacuum breeds despair. Despair is the next-door neighbour of anger. Anger is the next-door neighbour of violence.

OK, can any one country make a difference? Yes, Canada can. Canada already has...I have a feeling Canada

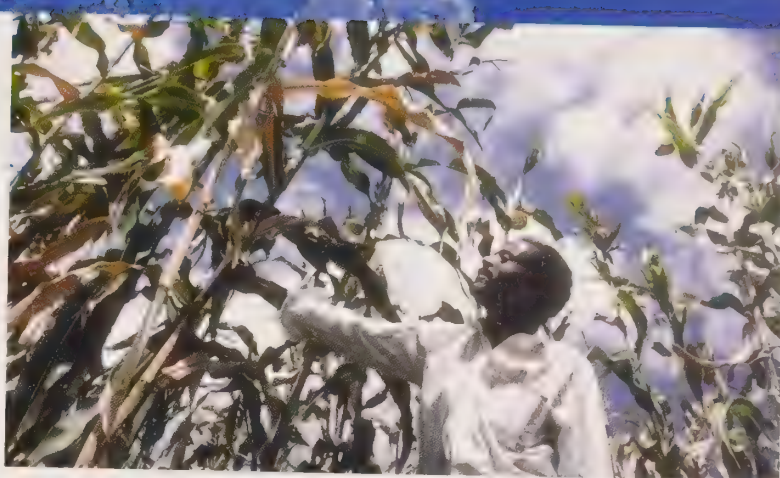
parts of the developing world, pledging to more than triple investments in the sector to \$300 million by 2006. In Africa, Canada has provided humanitarian aid to relieve famine and is supporting efforts by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to enhance agricultural productivity.

With support from Canada, one of CGIAR's research institutes, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, is helping farmers in four African countries adopt a new high-protein variety of maize. "This has the potential to increase nutrition, improve health and contribute to the food security of farming families in East Africa," says Doug Tanner, a Canadian agronomist who heads the center's Ethiopian office. "The increased protein quality may also strengthen immune systems and help people with HIV to better withstand related illnesses."

Water is abundant in Africa, but is poorly distributed. More than 300 million people do not have access to safe water and sanitation services, while close to half of the population suffers from water-related diseases. Canada is providing \$50 million to improve water management through groups such as the Global Water Partnership, the African Water Facility, the African Development Bank and UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Trust Fund.

Governance and trade

One of NEPAD's key priorities is to strengthen the capacity of Africa's public institutions, from improving transparency and participation in government to attracting investment. In fact, Africans are increasingly committed to improving the way in which their government, volunteer and private sector institutions are run.



With support from Canada, farmers in four African countries are adopting a new high-protein variety of maize.

Canada is supporting the African Capacity Building Foundation to help individual African countries improve public-sector policy. The pan-African foundation, based in Harare, Zimbabwe, focuses on areas such as financial accountability, economic policy and public participation in governance.

Canada has provided funds to help the African Development Bank finance infrastructure improvements to help countries attract more public and private investment, with projects in such sectors as transport, energy, water, sanitation and information and communications technologies. Canada is supporting initiatives by the United Nations International Trade Centre in Geneva and the Trade Facilitation Office to enhance African exporters' capacity to be more effective and ready to trade. Canada is also establishing the \$100-million Canada Investment Fund for Africa to promote private-sector investment on the continent (see page 19).

understands something that the rest of the world doesn't. Well, not yet anyway. The idea is interdependence. We're tied to each other, whether we like it or not.

I'd like history to record that a vast and unusual cast of characters got together to say, "enough of this madness." And not just rock stars and activists, but church people, soccer moms... People who don't even like each other are going to have to work with each other, because this is that big, and it's that serious.

This is our moment in the history books. Our age will be remembered for only about three things, I promise you: the Internet, the war against terror and how we stood around with watering cans as a whole continent, Africa, burst into flames—or not.

For a full transcript of Bono's speech visit the Canada World View Web site at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-magazine.



photo: Dave Chan, PMO

Peace and security

Peace, security and respect for human rights are cornerstones of sustainable development. While NEPAD commits African leaders to take greater responsibility for their own affairs, it also recognizes the need for external help.

As part of its support for strengthening African peace and security, Canada has named special envoys to support peace processes in both the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan, and has been active in efforts to prevent illicit trade in diamonds from fuelling armed conflict (see page 12). Through the West Africa Peace and Security Initiative, Canada is working in the critical areas of policing, peace support operations and addressing the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

To this end, Canada is supporting the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Accra, Ghana. While the centre officially opened in January, officials from Canada's Pearson Peacekeeping Centre taught the inaugural course there last November on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration. For two weeks, 42 mostly African participants covered topics ranging from crowd control to the destruction of unwanted weapons using sledgehammers, oxyacetylene torches and grinding machines.

"The course materials draw on a wide range of actual peace support exercises," says Kees Steenken of the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre, who led the training sessions. Some lessons from previous peace support missions in

Namibia, Mozambique and Angola, for example, were applied in El Salvador and Nicaragua. The Central American experiences in turn influenced practices in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

"The African participants noted that Africa was the source for much of the course information, and that many had endured or experienced the issues first-hand," Steenken says. "There are many who specialize in the field, but the information is not readily available."

Leadership in action

Canada is delivering on its commitments to NEPAD and, in the year ahead, will keep Africa on the global agenda through the Africa Partnership Forum, a Canadian initiative that for the first time brings together high-level representatives of the G8 and other donor countries, multilateral agencies and African partners.

"Our role is to support the continent's priorities because it's the right thing to do, but also because it's in Canada's best interests," says Minister Graham. "With increasing globalization, Canadians cannot remain safe in an unstable world—or prosperous in a world stricken by poverty." ♦

For more information on Canada's initiatives in Africa, see www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/canadafundforafrica and www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/africa.

CANADA, AFRICA AND LA FRANCOPHONIE

Member countries of La Francophonie have accepted the New Partnership for Africa's Development as a historic opportunity to strengthen partnerships within Africa—and between Africa and the rest of the international community—to promote democratization, economic growth and people-centred development in Africa. In addition, says the new Minister responsible for La Francophonie, Denis Coderre, "there is a tremendous sensitivity that Canadians and our government have regarding Africa. We need to help those most in need, but in the way of a partnership, and to provide them with tools."

Minister Coderre travelled to Paris last December to meet with his colleague ministers from La Francophonie to plan the upcoming biennial summit of Francophonie-member heads of state and government. The summit will be held in Ouagadougou,

Burkina Faso in November, with a theme of sustainable development. "It is a new era for La Francophonie," notes Minister Coderre, "And anything that we work on today will have a tremendous impact over the next 10 years."

And for the first time in the organization's history, the Secretary General of La Francophonie is African. Abdou Diouf, the former President of Senegal, was elected to the position in December 2002. ♦

Canada World View will have coverage of the Burkina Faso summit in an upcoming issue.

In the meantime, for more information on La Francophonie have a look at www.canada-francophonie.gc.ca.



AFRICA HAND

Events once conspired to pry her out of a diplomatic posting there, but Janet Graham has found rewards in helping Africa strive toward its potential.

She's spent a quarter of a century witnessing and experiencing the trials and triumphs of Africa, but apparently nothing has beaten down Janet Graham's ardour for the continent—or for Canada's ongoing efforts there.

"One of the best jobs in the world is to be a Canadian diplomat in Africa," says Ms. Graham, 53, currently Canada's High Commissioner to Tanzania, "because we're very trusted and welcome and respected for our independent views, our constructive engagement in development and our fair approach."

Born in Bombay, the grandchild of United Church of Canada missionaries, Ms. Graham spent her childhood in India, Pakistan, Liberia and finally Canada, where she lived in Mississauga, Ontario. However, the Toronto suburb stood little chance for her permanent commitment and, after attaining a Bachelor's degree in Geography at McMaster University and doing graduate work at Carleton University, a first career as an urban planner there was short-lived. Instead, inspired by Pierre Trudeau's embrace of the developing world and "very different approach to Africa," she joined Canada's Foreign Service in 1977.

Desk work in Ottawa was followed by a posting as Third Secretary in Pretoria, South Africa, from 1978 to 1980, when the struggle against apartheid was reaching a fevered pitch. "It was the most incredible two years of my life," says Ms. Graham, who reported on the activities, campaigns and political trials of dissidents fighting apartheid and shared their passion and commitment. "It was very easy to get emotionally involved, which you don't usually do as a diplomat."

Her assignment in South Africa was followed by positions as First Secretary in Trinidad and Counsellor in Zimbabwe. Her first experience as Head of Mission was as Acting High Commissioner to Nigeria in 1996. However, Canadian diplomatic staff, including Ms. Graham, were forced to quit Lagos six months later, when General Sani Abacha's displeasure with Canadian criticism of his rule became pronounced and the Canadian presence unwelcome.

Characteristically, Ms. Graham and family pulled up stakes for all of a year's sojourn in Canada before she



photos: courtesy of World Vision

Passionate about the continent: Canadian High Commissioner Janet Graham visits aid projects in rural Tanzania.

returned, unruffled, for her next appointment as High Commissioner to Ghana and finally her current assignment in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The challenges of Africa can seem insurmountable to those lacking passion about the continent. Ms. Graham anchors the Canadian presence in the third poorest country in the world, a nation almost entirely dependent on an agricultural sector subject to devastation by drought and flooding alike. Yet, noting the political stability and good macro-economic management lately achieved in Tanzania, she declares: "This is a country that deserves to succeed."

With a nascent civil society and commitment to tackle poverty, Tanzania's economy grew by more than six per cent last year, "not good enough but certainly in the right direction," Ms. Graham remarks. The country is among Canada's six key African aid recipients, with Canadian aid efforts directed largely at primary education and support for key government reforms including the micro-finance sector. As Tanzania has worked diligently with the World Bank and opened its doors to foreign investment, major Canadian mining interests have extended operations there for gold.

Ms. Graham herself has uncovered rewards below the surface all over Africa, where she met her South African architect husband, John Shearman, and which has offered new horizons as a long-time home to their three children, now between the ages of 15 and 20.

Ms. Graham will soon move back to Ottawa to give her youngest child some Canadian exposure. But the diplomat who has found nothing to match the satisfaction of working with African societies striving toward their potential would like to return to Africa again.

"I'm quite optimistic about this place, which it was difficult to be 25 years ago," she says. "These countries have a long way to go, but they're heading in the right direction." ♣

CONFLICT DIAMOND PROCESS ENTERS KEY PHASE

Rough diamonds

The Kimberley Process is aimed at ending conflict fuelled by diamonds in Africa. With a new certification scheme in place, Canada's challenge as Chair will be its implementation.

The international community, with Canada in a lead role, is poised to take major steps toward turning "conflict diamonds" into "prosperity diamonds."

Illegally traded rough diamonds used for tax evasion and money laundering represent as much as 20 percent of annual world diamond production. The scope of this illicit trade has particularly fuelled the spread of diamonds used by rebel armies to pay for weapons. Over the past decade, these conflict diamonds have contributed to the massive displacement of civilians and untold deaths, primarily in Angola, Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but also in Guinea, Liberia and elsewhere (see *Canada World View* Issues 16 and 19).

The Kimberley Process—named for the meeting in Kimberley, South Africa, where it was established in 2000—set up an international certification scheme for rough diamonds that went into effect in January 2003. This scheme will essentially allow the international community to keep track of diamond production in each participating country. At a meeting last October in Sun City, South Africa, participants made major progress on the sticky issue of how to monitor compliance with the scheme. They approved a peer review system for diamond producers based on the submission of annual reports and voluntary review visits, which will involve industry and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as host governments.

At Sun City, Canada was chosen to succeed South Africa, which has managed the Kimberley Process since its inception. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has established a secretariat in its Peacebuilding and Human Security Division to handle the country's duties as Chair.

"Canada has always taken a human security approach to the question of conflict diamonds," says Tim Martin, a Canadian diplomat who represents Canada in its new role. "Diamonds have contributed to conflicts in Africa and have had a devastating impact on people. Our goal is to ensure that diamonds start to support, rather than undermine, human development."

Working closely with the Russian Federation as Vice-Chair, Canada will manage various working groups and committees that oversee activities such as collecting diamond production statistics and monitoring compliance.

Martin identifies two key priorities for the Kimberley Process with Canada as Chair this year. First, it must effectively monitor the implementation of the certification scheme, including analyzing annual reports and identifying countries to receive review visits. He says that several countries have already indicated their willingness to participate in these voluntary missions. Second, it must put together reliable statistics on the global production and trade in rough diamonds based on the certification scheme. "Our performance here is a key element of evaluating how the system is working, and identifying any anomalies that allow conflict diamonds to pass through unnoticed," Martin adds.

Martin's concerns are echoed by Partnership Africa Canada (PAC), a coalition of African and Canadian NGOs working to end diamond-related conflict. "Without good trade and production statistics, you just can't track the movement of diamonds," says Ian Smillie, Research Coordinator for PAC's Diamonds and Human Security project.

"We're entering a new phase of the Kimberley Process," says Smillie. "We're no longer creating the systems, we're starting to implement. As the new Chair, Canada will have the difficult job of making sure countries do what they said they would do." ♦

For more information about conflict diamonds, visit Partnership Africa Canada on-line at www.pacweb.org and DFAIT's Human Security Web site at www.humansecurity.gc.ca.

Diamond prospectors sift through earth in a mine: the illicit trade in rough diamonds is used by rebel armies to pay for weapons, leading to the massive displacement of civilians and untold deaths.

JUSTICE COMES TO SIERRA LEONE

With strong support from Canada, a unique tribunal is working to bring justice—and peace—to a war-torn country.

Edward Conteh was walking down a street in Sierra Leone's capital of Freetown last spring when he saw the man who had entered his urban neighbourhood at the height of the country's civil war and hacked off his left arm with a machete. Conteh, a schoolteacher, rushed home to tell his son, who immediately wanted to search out and kill the man. But his father held him back. "No more revenge," he said. "What we need is justice."

One of the countless survivors of his country's bloody 1991-2001 civil war, Conteh is watching justice begin to unfold in the Special Court for Sierra Leone. Set up in 2002, the Court has a three-year mandate to prosecute those who bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities committed since a peace agreement signed in 1996 failed.

The court has 11 standing indictments against the leaders of all three warring factions, as well as the former president of neighbouring Liberia, Charles Taylor, now living in exile in Nigeria. The crimes range from murder, rape and acts of terror to sexual slavery and the conscription of children into an armed force.

As a member of the UN Security Council in 2000, Canada helped to establish the Special Court for Sierra Leone and continues to be instrumental in its operation, contributing both funds and personnel. According to Chief Prosecutor David Crane, Canadians make up 21 percent of staff at the Office of the Prosecutor, the largest international contingent. Six lawyers in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's (DFAIT) Young Professionals International initiative have worked at the

Court in the past two years. And Brigadier-General Pierre Boutet, a retired judge advocate general in Canada's Department of National Defence, serves as a trial judge.

Mora Johnson, a former political officer with DFAIT and now a University of Toronto law student who interned at the Court for three months last summer, says that it's not enough to deliver justice; it's also important

to show the people who suffered so much in the war that justice is being done. To this end, the Court has held "town hall" meetings all over the country, where role-playing exercises and question-and-answer sessions attempt to explain the role of the Court to victims and perpetrators alike.

"If one of the Court's goals is to bring a sense of justice and accountability, it's

important that ordinary people know what's happening," says Johnson.

It was during a visit to an amputee camp that Johnson met Edward Conteh, whose arm had been mutilated. Later, she ran into the schoolteacher again in the Court, where he was watching the early proceedings. Conteh's decision to seek solace in the process unfolding before him rather than to pursue a personal vendetta left a deep impression.

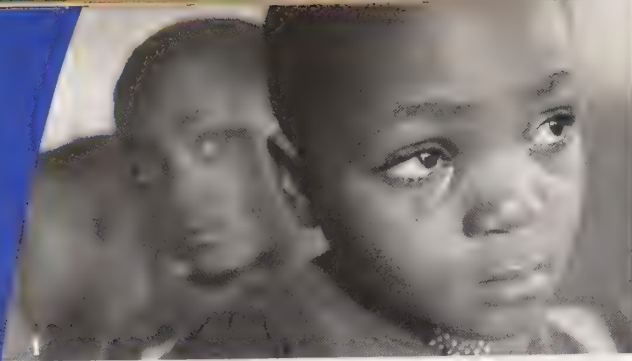
"He knew that revenge would only perpetuate the cycle of violence," Johnson says. "In a way, Edward's response encapsulated the philosophy behind the creation of the Special Court: there can be no peace without justice." ♣

For more information on the Special Court for Sierra Leone, see www.sc-sl.org.



Mora Johnson and Edward Conteh in a Freetown amputee camp: no peace without justice

photo courtesy of Mora Johnson



HIV/AIDS in Africa

CANADA'S MORAL IMPERATIVE



Stephen Lewis's tireless work and eloquent entreaties as the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa have touched Canadians and the world. The former Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF and leader of the New Democratic Party of Ontario, Mr. Lewis at 66 has found perhaps the most passionate undertaking of his career: addressing the pandemic that has taken 15 million lives in Africa, with tens of millions more infected. In conversation with *Canada World View*, the recently invested Companion of the Order of Canada and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Stephen Lewis Foundation praised Canadian efforts in Africa—while exhorting his country to do more.

The struggle

I see this as part of the struggle against injustice. I'm a democratic socialist; this is part of a deeply believed ideological mindset. In a sense for me it's a very political thing. It just gives expression to what I have believed all my adult life. It happens to be applied to HIV/AIDS and that happens to be a particularly difficult struggle, and it's international rather than domestic, but it is for me an extension of an ideological conviction, of a political position. It's not some moral aura.

Love of Africa

My first contact with Africa was Ghana two years after independence [working as a young schoolteacher in 1959]. You can only imagine the excitement in the country about future prospects and overthrowing the yoke of colonialism and all that stuff. There's just something so exhilarating and invigorating. Now I wander through the rural areas of these countries where the decimation from disease and poverty is just horrific, and yet there's such a resilience, there's so much solidarity. People extend themselves so strongly to each other when they are asked to help. There's so much music, there's so much liveliness and life. I'm just totally captivated by the continent.

Why Canada has responded

It's part of the Canadian tradition on the one hand, and it's part of an absolute moral imperative on the other. There are all kinds of practical reasons, from security to

trade, that can be invoked. For myself it's enough to feel moral obligation, a kind of decent compassion for the struggles of other people who are light years away from the Canadian standard of living. If you don't deal with AIDS, then all of the UN Millennium Development Goals in Africa and all of the social and economic improvements you're throwing Canadian money behind are going to disintegrate in front of your eyes.

What Canada is doing

Canada, like other Western countries, is involved in fighting the pandemic in a great many ways. We are among the biggest contributors to the search for an AIDS vaccine in the developing world, which I think was an exemplary decision on the part of the government, because if anything is ever found it will probably be under the rubric of the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative. We support a number of NGOs and initiatives in many countries dealing with prevention and care, in ways that are not particularly different from what other governments do, but that are very helpful. I think that the most dramatic initiative will come if and when the legislation on the generic manufacture and export of drugs passes the House of Commons.

More is needed

I agree with the Parliamentary Standing Committee [on Foreign Affairs and International Trade] that unanimously felt that the contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria should be tripled. A second



area is the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative. There are places where Canada's clout can become quite memorable when historians look back on the pandemic. I think we took such a dramatic step in giving \$50 million to this, but it would be appropriate to double the Canadian contribution. Finally, I think Canada has been remiss in not making a significant contribution to the International Partnership for Microbicides to develop female-controlled HIV prevention methods. HIV/AIDS truly is a women's issue, it's a gender issue with which Canada has always felt itself associated. Microbicides are within probably five to seven years from emerging but they do give women an opportunity to prevent infection.

Applying leadership

There are individual issues, like the abolition of school fees, that would make a huge difference to the numbers of AIDS-orphaned children who are now prevented from going to school because they can't afford the fees or the books or the uniforms. If a country like Canada were to take the lead in the campaign to abolish school fees in Africa, it would be a magnificent contribution. The World Bank has already indicated that it's prepared to raise the funds to compensate the governments for the loss of funds that school fees yield. Therefore, Canada's role might well be a brokerage role between governments and the Bank. What is missing is a voice and some political leadership. For a country like Canada, that is something that doesn't require expenditure, it requires the clout of a G7 country.

Doing what matters

I feel best when I know that public advocacy, which is always necessary in generalities, is translated into the mother you meet in a clinic who has received treatment as a result of advocacy. There she is: she was at death's door and now she's alive, and her two kids are playing at her feet. Or you go to the home of a child-headed household where a little girl of 12 is looking after her three orphaned siblings and you find a way, in working with the community, to get a really nice foster family arrangement for those kids so they're no longer on their own. Or you're part of an effort to bring blankets to a village where people are freezing at night or they simply don't have anything in the hut for those who are ill to cover themselves with. These absolutely concrete matters are what sustain me personally and make me feel that life is not merely ephemeral. I can say to my children as my father said to me, "Not in my lifetime son, but perhaps in yours," meaning the triumph of a more just society. ♡

You can find out more about the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS at www.unaids.org and contribute on-line to the struggle against HIV/AIDS through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria at www.theglobalfund.org.

HIV Positive: AIDS Through a New Lens

When a group of Canada's top photographers called PhotoSensitive travelled to Zambia to document the AIDS pandemic, they knew they would encounter suffering. But they were not prepared for what else they found: hope. They documented their discoveries in moving photographs that were grouped into four categories: crisis, courage, hope and future. PhotoSensitive joined with CARE Canada through the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency to create a widely travelled exhibit of photographs called HIV Positive.

- 1 These three AIDS orphans are among more than 10 million children worldwide who are left vulnerable by the disease.

photo: Andrew Stawicki, PhotoSensitive/CARE

2 Crisis

Lusaka's mortuary is overloaded. The PhotoSensitive photographers could not recall meeting a single Zambian who had not lost friends or family to HIV-related illnesses.

photo: Steve Simon, PhotoSensitive/CARE

3 Courage

Grandmothers are raising a second generation in Africa. Children are often left in the care of the elderly when parents grow sick or die. On the day the photographer visited, this grandmother was feeling ill. She worried about what would happen to her grandchildren after she was gone.

photo: Dick Loek, PhotoSensitive/CARE

4 Hope

Youths are key in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The message—Be Proud! Abstinence "ili che" is one of the HEART campaign messages that is becoming popular and receiving acceptance among youth.

photo: Tony Hauser, PhotoSensitive/CARE

5 Future

AIDS has allies in Africa, chief among them poverty. But the stigma surrounding the virus is deadly too. Myths about transmission, derogatory attitudes toward women, taboos that prevent sex education for children—each helps AIDS infect the next generation. These are social hurdles that Africans can and must overcome in their own way. There is no time to lose.

photo: Dick Loek, PhotoSensitive/CARE

View the HIV Positive photo exhibit at www.care.ca

FRIENDS OF THE GREAT LAKES

Canada co-chairs an organization to support the Great Lakes Region of Africa.

Canada is taking a leadership role to support an African-led process for peace, security, democracy and development in the Great Lakes Region of Africa.

The process, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, co-sponsored by the United Nations and the African Union, primarily involves Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. This troubled

region is home to one fifth of the world's 25 million internally displaced people. It is also among the hardest hit by the AIDS pandemic, with 4 million people living with HIV/AIDS and 3.2 million AIDS orphans. The issue of food security—complicated by conflict, arbitrary violence and displacement—remains a major challenge as well.

In June 2003, the core countries involved in the Conference held their first meeting and defined four themes: peace and security; democracy and good governance; development and economic integration; and social and humanitarian issues. Among its

as partners in this long-term process by providing political, diplomatic, financial and technical assistance. Following consultations with the UN and the African Union, Canada created the Group of Friends of the Great Lakes Region, which will ensure that the international community provides adequate support to the Conference and the core countries.

The Group is composed of 28 countries and 10 international organizations. Canada, which allocated an initial amount of \$1.5 million to the Conference, manages its activities and operations jointly with the Netherlands.

Canada has been closely involved in the region's peace process for many years. It led the Multinational Force to the eastern Congo and Rwanda in 1996 and participated in the UN-mandated European-led Operation Artemis, an interim emergency multinational force deployed around Bunia in the northeastern DRC. This was in addition to its normal contribution to the UN Observer Mission in the DRC.

On the diplomatic front, Canada helped in the negotiation of a peace agreement in Burundi, which led to the Arusha Accords. It was also active in the Lusaka Accord, which officially ended the war in the DRC. More recently, Canada supported the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, which provided for the creation of a transitional government and parliament in Kinshasa, which is now in place, and a commitment to hold national elections in 2006. 🍁



REMEMBERING RWANDA

Allan Thompson travelled on assignment with the *Toronto Star* to Arusha, Tanzania, in late January 2004 to report on the testimony by Romeo Dallaire in the landmark trial of Theoneste Bagosora and three other senior military officers accused of orchestrating the 1994 Rwanda genocide. Dallaire, the retired Canadian general who commanded the ill-fated United Nations force in Rwanda, was left traumatized by the horror and by his helplessness in the face of the 100-day killing frenzy, which left some 800,000 minority Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus dead. On the 10th anniversary of the genocide, Thompson, a former Parliament Hill correspondent for the *Star* and now a professor of journalism at Carleton University, reflects on the horrors behind and the way forward for Dallaire, Canada—and the world.

As the world returns its gaze to Rwanda, however briefly, Romeo Dallaire still stands front and centre. In some ways, it is as if he never left.

For nearly two weeks in late January, Dallaire resumed his role as commander of the UN mission to Rwanda, as the Western world's conscience, the touchstone for the grief and remorse of those who stood by while nearly a million people were slaughtered. This time, Dallaire returned to Africa to testify against one of the alleged masterminds of the genocide, former Rwandan army colonel Theoneste Bagosora.

For years, Dallaire anticipated his chance to testify against Bagosora. But he also dreaded the encounter. The ordeal finally over, he told me he found himself rooted to the spot in the courtroom, unable to move, his eyes fixed on Bagosora. "It was very difficult for me to say that it was over. I just didn't want to let him go," Dallaire said in an interview after he completed seven days of testimony.

While staring at Bagosora, he says, he was once again transported back to Rwanda. "All I saw were bodies and bodies and bodies, so many of the horrific scenes. It was just sort of

like fast forward, when you put a million pictures together and try to watch it."

But maintaining his composure and concentration during seven days on the witness stand was testament to the fact that Dallaire is making progress. In recent years, he has begun to rebuild his life, publishing his Rwanda memoir, *Shake Hands with the Devil*, and gearing up for a research fellowship this fall at Harvard University's prestigious Carr Center for Human Rights Policy.

Dallaire said that he left Africa this time feeling better than when he arrived and that he is ready for a pilgrimage to Rwanda in early April, along with his wife, Elizabeth, for the commemoration ceremony marking the 10th anniversary of the genocide. But he is also ready to move beyond Rwanda and plans to use the fellowship at Harvard to research and write a new book on conflict resolution.

"We can't defuse these conflicts with methodologies that come from pre-1989, Cold-War, nation-state concepts," he said. "I feel that so much of the writing is still fiddling with known methods. We need pure, innovative thought, to get ahead of the nature of conflict."



photo courtesy of Allan Thompson

But there are still moments when his mind travels back to Rwanda. His return there this spring is not to be confused, he said, with the extended, personal pilgrimage he still hopes to make as his final step in coming to terms with the genocide, mourning the dead and "re-establishing contact with the spirits."

"I mean, it's always spring in Rwanda. There is food in the trees. There are always extra beans or some goat's milk. And there are a thousand hills and a thousand valleys."

"The strongest feeling of being in a whole different dimension is usually in the morning. On the high roads, you would have clouds or mist below you... It was like the mist was forming, dissipating, moving down the valleys, like an entity. And then it would disappear."

"It is just an extraordinary place to sit and watch paradise." 🍁

Read the proceedings of a symposium entitled *The Media and the Rwanda Genocide*, held at Carleton University in March 2004, at www.carleton.ca/mediagenocide.

Allan Thompson (right) first reported from Rwanda in 1996 during the mass exodus of Rwandan refugees from eastern Zaire. He has chronicled Romeo Dallaire's career in a series of reports for the *Star*, including a special section on Dallaire's journey to Sierra Leone in 2001 for CIDA on a fact-finding mission on war-affected children, when this photo was taken.

BRIGHTER DAYS FOR TRADE

Canadians find risks and rewards in African trade and investment.

Seeing the light isn't always easy. But it's getting much simpler, cleaner and safer for people in the most remote areas of Africa through the products of Canada's Glenergy Inc.

The small Pembroke, Ontario, company specializes in solar-powered lighting products, such as a reading lamp called the Edulight that is charged during the day to provide six hours of light each night. Glenergy president Glen MacGillivray says the lights have a long life, reduce eye strain, accidents and harmful environmental effects that can result from using candles and oil lamps, and are

"perfect for a place where there's a shortage of electricity and an abundance of sunshine." Africa would appear to fit the bill: Glenergy has shipped Edulights to Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, with plans to expand into more markets and other types of solar lighting in the coming months.

Glenergy's business with Africa is typical of the innovation and expertise that Canadians are bringing to the continent in the engineering, telecom and medical fields, among others. But technology is just one facet of Canada's trade with a market that presents both challenges and vast, unexplored potential.

Canada sold \$1.3 billion in goods such as cereals and machinery to African countries in 2003. In turn, we bought \$4.2 billion worth of goods, mostly commodities such as hydrocarbon fuels, fruit and cocoa. In the late 1990s, it was estimated that more than 50 percent of African mining ventures included Canadian participation, making Canada the largest non-African investor on the continent.

Despite burgeoning reforms and high returns on foreign investment, Africa remains economically marginalized. Home to some 13 percent of the world's people, the continent is involved in about 2 percent of global trade and 1 percent of investment.

"The problems of investing in Africa are myriad and well known," Ibrahim Gambari, the UN Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa, told a recent conference in Montreal. The infrastructure essential for business is often less than desirable,

he said, while the legal framework, financial services, capital markets and public sector cooperation found in more developed regions of the world are not always there.

Glen MacGillivray agrees. "Doing business in Africa is never, ever easy," he says, with challenges ranging from cultural differences in managing relationships to requests for unconventional payments that "sometimes force you outside your comfort zone."

Home to some 13 percent of the world's people, the continent is involved in about 2 percent of global trade and 1 percent of investment.

Helping Canadian firms navigate the challenging but promising business climate in Africa is at the root of Canada's trade strategy with Africa, which links trade goals to longer-term foreign policy objectives aimed at helping Africans reduce poverty and become larger players in the global economy.

Canada's commitment to helping Canadians do business with Africa is a two-way street. Last year, for example, Canada eliminated tariffs and quotas on almost all imports from the 48 countries the UN calls "least developed countries" (LDCs), 34 of which are in Africa. This makes Canada's market access provisions among the most generous in the world.

The Canada Fund for Africa is also providing support for a series of initiatives designed to help Africa



Making machine parts in Ghana: attracting public and private investment is key for trade.



Improving infrastructure and increasing trade capacity is essential for Africa.

increase its trade capacity, both within the continent and with the rest of the world. The Fund is also being used to increase the capacity of Africans to more effectively represent their own interests in negotiating international trade agreements.

Helping to address social problems such as the human toll from diseases such as HIV/AIDS is the goal of proposed changes to Canadian laws that would allow the export of low-cost pharmaceuticals to LDCs. Amendments to Canada's Patent Act and Food and Drugs Act, currently under scrutiny by Parliament, will allow the generic manufacture and export of patented drugs for the purpose of responding to grave epidemics in these impoverished countries.

"The need for intellectual property rights is undeniable," Prime Minister Paul Martin told the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, in January, "but there is also a moral

obligation to help relieve someone's suffering if we are able."

In terms of Africa's long-term development, Gambari says that the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the related African Peer Review Mechanism, which will monitor the progress of African governments toward sound economic management and transparent political processes, are providing "an enabling environment for investment."

As one of its commitments under NEPAD, the Canadian government will establish the Canada Investment Fund for Africa, a \$100-million fund intended to leverage at least an equal amount of private-sector investment in commercial ventures and partnerships.

For Glen MacGillivray, the challenges of such investment are many, but the opportunities are there too. "We're talking about wonderful markets and huge needs," he says. "These are interesting times." 🍀

Focus on Algeria

Most people think of couscous as a somewhat exotic dish. But check out the ingredients and country of origin on a box of this traditional North African staple the next time you're grocery shopping. Chances are it's made from Canadian wheat.

Algerians enjoy couscous as well, and much of theirs is Canadian in origin too. In fact, the durum wheat that the North African nation buys from Canada each year to produce couscous as well as the other commodities we trade make Algeria by far Canada's leading trade partner in the entire Africa and the Middle East region.

Exports and imports between Canada and Algeria accounted for more than \$2.7 billion in 2003. Gas and oil make up almost all of Canada's imports from the country, while cereals dominate Canadian sales there. Algeria is one of the top five markets in the world for Canadian durum wheat.

The two countries have maintained diplomatic relations since Algeria became an independent nation in 1962. These ties continued throughout the recent 10-year period of political turbulence marked by internal terrorist violence, from which Algeria gradually appears to be emerging.

Stability is slowly returning and Algeria's government, aided by Canadian initiatives, is attempting political and economic reforms as a vehicle toward a more prosperous market economy. Since 1964, \$150 million in Canadian aid has flowed to Algeria. The Canadian International Development Agency recently signed a new agreement under its private-sector development fund to support economic reform programs there.

Evidence of Algeria's increasing global political engagement abounds. Currently the representative of Arab countries on the United Nations Security Council, Algeria has supported various Canadian-led international initiatives. Algeria signed and ratified the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel mines and took part in the Winnipeg Conference on War-affected Children. And Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika is an outspoken champion of NEPAD.

For more information about Trade with Algeria, start at the Trade Commissioner Service at www.infoexport.gc.ca and search for Algeria.

To read the latest news on trade with Africa, see the April 1 and April 15 issues of *CanadExport*, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's biweekly investment and trade publication. See the issues and search the *CanadExport* archives for more Africa trade news at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadexport.

photo: CIDA ACED/Roger LeMoine



BUILDING SUSTAINABLE CITIES

With estimates that two thirds of the world's population will live in urban areas by 2030, cities have become a focal point for ensuring sustainable development on a global scale. Programs such as Industry Canada's Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI) are at the forefront of helping citizens to improve their cities, using a network of experts for analysis, planning, action and support to mitigate the impact of current and future development.

Durban, South Africa, is one of four African cities currently working with the SCI to implement a number of initiatives aimed at sustainability. This bustling port city has started cleaning up and planning the restoration of a popular beach resort and has looked at Canadian models for

improving the electronic connectivity of its government. Progress is also being made to establish a clean technology centre to assist Durban businesses in identifying cost-effective solutions to reduce dangerous emissions.

In Algiers, Algeria, following a recent earthquake, the SCI helped to carry out a high-priority risk assessment of damaged housing structures and review of rehabilitation procedures. In Dakar, Senegal, SCI projects include a plan for storm-water management, measures to relieve traffic congestion and the development of proposals to improve city lighting while promoting energy efficiency. The SCI's newest participant, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, is currently developing projects focused on public transportation,

solid-waste management, municipal safety, urban planning and land use.

The SCI concept of engaging different sectors, including governments, non-governmental organizations and private companies, is proving to be an effective formula in building the cities of tomorrow, says Durban Mayor Obed Mlaba. "The expertise of the Sustainable Cities Initiative is in assessing what the city needs and mobilizing efforts toward implementing solutions," he says. "The SCI is able to deliver results that would take us years to achieve." ♦

For more information about Industry Canada's Sustainable Cities Initiative, see www.sci.ic.gc.ca.

Durban, South Africa: cities are a focal point for ensuring sustainable development on a global scale.

MANAGING WATER FROM 800 KILOMETRES OUT

Space exploration efforts focused on the quest for water on far-off planets may be getting a lot of attention these days, but the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) is looking a little closer to home.

The CSA's satellite, RADARSAT-1, has the most powerful technology in the world for collecting information on the location and movement of water on Earth. It was developed in 1995 for ice tracking and land-boundary identification in the Canadian Arctic. Now the CSA is working to join forces with the European Space Agency to implement the recommendations of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable

Development by using space-based techniques to improve water management in developing countries. Called the TIGER Initiative, the project aims to develop Earth observation information services for the surveillance and management of water resources, with a focus on Africa.

"Space can contribute to initiatives with developing nations," says CSA Project Manager Yves Crevier. The Agency expects the technology to significantly improve the ability of Africans to manage and improve their water usage, consumption, distribution and quality. This includes everything from reporting on the general water

supply to investigating water-borne diseases, storm protection, erosion and irrigation used in agriculture. Collecting satellite data to monitor and manage African wetlands where malaria-infected mosquitoes thrive is just one of the many uses of CSA technology, Crevier says. "The TIGER Initiative provides the CSA with an excellent opportunity to confirm the usefulness of space technology in support of sustainable development." ♦

For more information about the work of the Canadian Space Agency, visit www.space.gc.ca.

TUNING IN ON WILDLIFE

Canadian provinces are known for running highly effective wildlife conservation programs. However, this involves increasingly sophisticated equipment and advanced strategies to out-manoeuvre the ever-more wily poachers and vandals who illegally hunt wildlife for gain or sport. So, when Dave Harvey, Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Branch of Environment Saskatchewan, considered the question of how to put some soon-to-be-retired field communications equipment to good use, he was determined to send it to where it was needed most.

The idea sparked a mission to transfer radios used for surveillance and patrolling in Saskatchewan to far-away Africa. Illegal wildlife trade worldwide is a \$6 billion-a-year industry, according to the non-profit group WildAid, and a large part of this activity is based in Africa, where

elephants and rhinoceros in particular are hunted for their tusks, horns, meat and hides. African conservation authorities have little equipment in some African countries, Harvey says, "Sometimes nothing more than a .303 rifle and a pair of shoes." The 228 surplus Motorola PT 300 radios will have a significant impact on patrolling and surveillance practices and strategies and will improve operations to circle in and apprehend poachers.

Transferring the radios to wildlife-threatened areas of Africa was a collaborative effort by an extensive network of partners in Canada and abroad. First, the radios were made available for donation by the Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers, which purchased them from the province for a nominal fee. The Government of Saskatchewan ensured that the radios were technically ready and then sent them to Environment Canada, where the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) set up the necessary African connections for the transfer. Soon the CWS had also enlisted the help of the International Fund for Animal Welfare, a wildlife protection group, which donated 110 antennas and 7,524 batteries so that the radios

would be available to African wildlife authorities in complete, ready-to-use packages. The CWS then joined with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to deliver the goods to their final destinations through the Department's diplomatic mail system.

The radios are now in use by conservation authorities in 11 African countries, including Chad, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Tanzania, and there are plans to create permanent channels for the transfer of surplus field equipment from Canada to wildlife protection agencies all over the world to fight illegal hunters. "These guys are very, very organized," says Yvan Lafleur, the CWS Director for wildlife enforcement. "We can only combat this kind of crime by working together." 🍁

For more details about the radios for wildlife program, tune in to Environment Canada's Planet Update at www.ec.gc.ca/pu-ec/0310_e.htm.



| Motorola PT 300

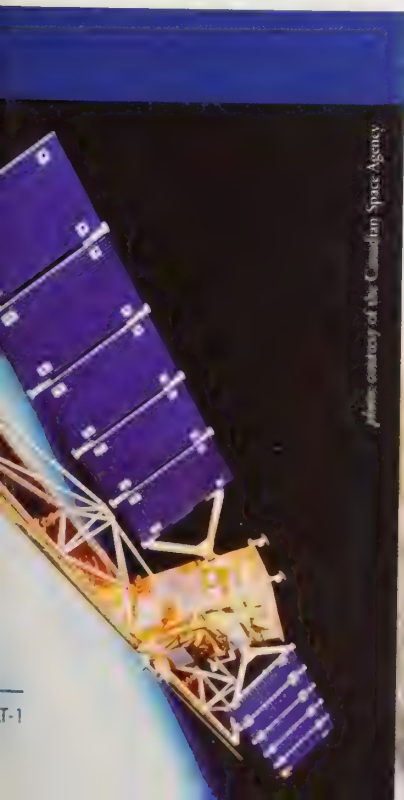


photo: courtesy of the Canadian Space Agency



photo: © JIM ACCU/David Barbour

BLACK AND WHITE AND READ ALL OVER

For more than a generation, Canadian writers of all backgrounds have been exploring Africa. The transatlantic traffic in ideas and books has never been richer.

When writer Ken Wiwa stares outside his office window in search of inspiration, he sees an empty white space like a blank sheet of paper—the snow-covered quadrangle of Massey College at the University of Toronto. “It’s hard to imagine Africa,” he says.

Yet that is what Wiwa, an accomplished non-fiction writer and columnist for *The Globe and Mail*, is currently trying to do: develop his first novel, an exploration of tribal memory and dislocation set amid the

brilliant tropical sunshine, the honking and shouting cacophony, the pollution, exuberance and heat of his family’s native Nigeria. “I’m consistently finding that reports of Africa in the Canadian news media are all about issues, about trouble,” says Wiwa. “It makes you wary of Africa.” And yet, he points out, a recent British poll found that Nigerians rated themselves as the world’s happiest people. “The troubles are real enough, but from the outside, it’s hard to get Africa’s complexity right.”

Nevertheless, a surprising number of Canadian writers have attempted to do just that—some of them with considerable success.

Two of the most recent are Toronto-based M.G. Vassanji, two-time winner of The Giller Prize (most recently for his 2003 novel about Kenya, *The In-Between World of Vikram Lall*), and Gil Courtemanche, the Quebec author of *A Sunday at the Pool in Kigali*. The latter, a best-seller in both French and English Canada, has been translated into 15 languages—the latest being Danish and Croatian, says Carole Boutin, who handles rights for publisher Les Éditions du Boréal.

Canada plays a minor role in these books. Vassanji’s narrators recount their stories from the security of Toronto, but the action takes place in Kenya. His *The Book of Secrets* is partly set in East Africa’s colonial past of railway building and land-clearing.



Vikram Lall takes place mostly during Kenya’s bloody struggle for independence, when the Mau Mau waged war on white colonists, while Indian Kenyans—like the Vassanji family, descendants of indentured workers brought over by the British—waited anxiously in between.

Courtemanche also sets his action in Africa, in Rwanda’s capital city in the period of the Hutu-Tutsi genocide. At the centre is a Québécois journalist and aid worker who is in love with a Hutu woman and dismayed at the failure of a Canadian major-general working for the UN to stop the coming genocide. The cast of characters includes some bumbling Canadian diplomats. So cynical is Courtemanche’s portrait of his compatriots, some might ask why the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) has underwritten some of the novelist’s promotional touring.

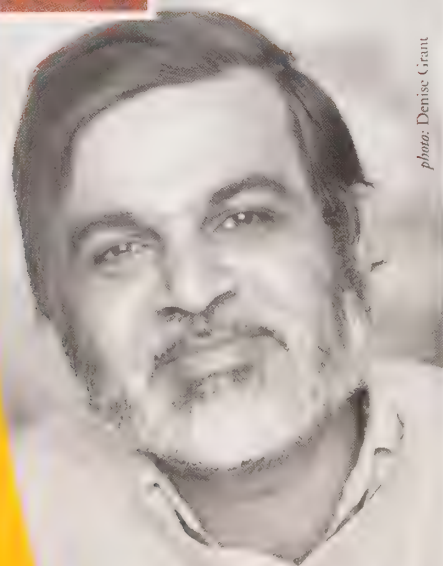
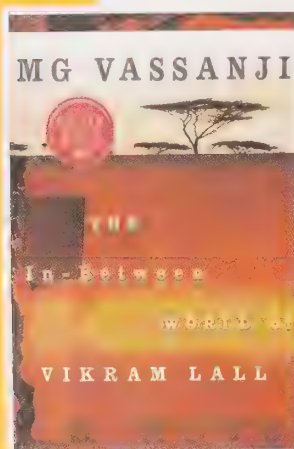


photo: Denise Grant



Ken Wiwa: "It's hard to imagine Africa."

"Courtemanche is just one example of the genre of Canadian authors who are writing so eloquently about Africa," explains Peter Stephens, Program Director for Literature with DEFAIT. "While his book is a fictional account of the events in Rwanda, it points to disturbing and uncomfortable facts that may from time to time not cast Canadians in the best light. However, this in no way diminishes the literary merit of the work."

Indeed, these Canadian novels are only the latest in a list that goes back decades—at least to 1970, when Dave Godfrey won the Governor General's fiction award for his novel about Canadian aid workers in West Africa, *The New Ancestors*. (Godfrey also was a founder of the House of Anansi publishers—in fact, he took the name from the great spider trickster figure of West African legend.)

Then there was Margaret Laurence, who wrote of her years with her husband in Somalia and Ghana in *The Prophet's Camel Bell* and in short fiction. Audrey Thomas explored the politics of aid in Ghana in *Coming Down From Wa*. Isabel Huggan set several stories in Nairobi in her collection *You Never Know*. Barbara Gowdy imagined life as a she-elephant in *The White Bone*. Among French-language books, there is Hubert Aquin's *Blackout* and Jean-Jacques Ferron's *Saint Elias*.

These are white writers, preoccupied with the guilt-laden relationships between First- and Third-World people trying to solve Africa's development and justice conundrums. Another group of Canadians, writers of African background, are more concerned about exorcising the traumas of the past, addressing issues of emigration and building a post-colonial identity—people such as Ugandan-born playwright George Seremba; poet and playwright David Odhiambo; and Calgary writer Esi Edugyan, whose debut novel *The Second Life of Samuel Tyne* is being published this year by Knopf Canada.

Whatever their perspective, when writers sit down to create, the vivid tones of Africa tend to transcend the subdued colours of Canada. And yet there's much in these books that parallels Canada's own stories: tales of survival in vast and inhospitable landscapes; dramas of indigenous peoples' contact with Europeans; accounts of the opening of the land



Gil Courtemanche



by railways and capitalists; and, of course, the modern saga of learning to live in multicultural, multilingual communities. Such themes run like subterranean veins through the bedrock of Canadian literature; no surprise that writers working in Canada can detect similar literary gold in other lands.

From his office overlooking a snowy landscape, Ken Wiwa notes, "The only way I can access Africa from Toronto is through memories and music. Perhaps, though, writing from here has its advantages. Once you're there, it's hard to stay distanced." ♣

THE POWER OF GIVING BACK

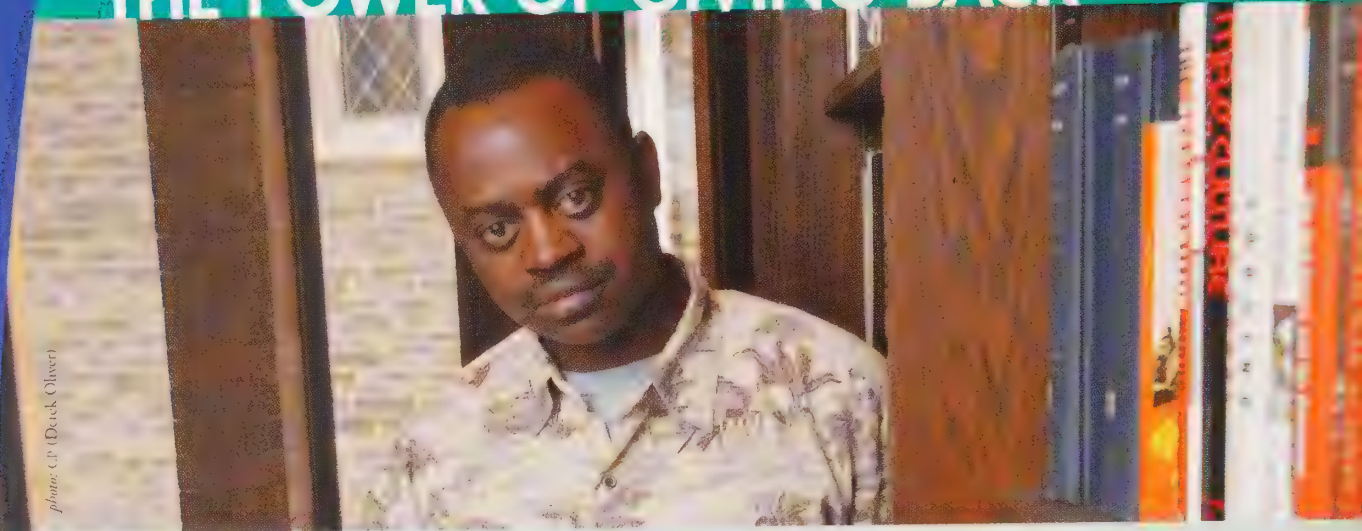


photo: C.J. Derek Oliver

Academic dream: Kolawole Olaiya is studying for a PhD in Canada through the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan.

For more than four decades, African students educated at Canadian universities through the Commonwealth Scholarship have enriched the academic, cultural, business and political life of their home countries—and Canada.

Kolawole Olaiya grew up dreaming of a career as a professor. But it seemed like a long shot. The eldest of seven children born into a family of modest means in western Nigeria, Olaiya spent his early years moving around with his father, who was posted throughout the country as a soldier in the Nigerian army. However, Olaiya's father valued education and made sure his son stayed in one place for high school. From there, Olaiya went to university, earning degrees in dramatic arts and African literature before joining the Nigerian Television Authority to teach scriptwriting.

Still, he dreamed of becoming a full-fledged academic. In 1999, he

applied to the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan and won a coveted spot. Olaiya could have pursued his studies in more than half a dozen Commonwealth countries, but chose Canada for its high quality of life. This year, as he heads home with a PhD in drama studies from the University of Toronto, he credits the prestigious scholarship with helping to fulfill his dream.

"I am on a mission for knowledge," says Olaiya, 40, who will rejoin the Nigerian Television Authority and also plans to teach at the University of Jos in central Nigeria. "Now it's time to complete my mission and go home and start making use of my knowledge for others."

His ambition is what the architects of the Commonwealth Scholarship had in mind when they established the post-graduate study program. First proposed by Canada and presented by then Secretary of State for External Affairs Sidney Smith at a 1958 meeting of Commonwealth officials, the award enables high-achieving scholars to expand their academic horizons through study abroad at a

Commonwealth university. Participants receive about \$25,000 per year of study to cover tuition, travel for research or conferences and living expenses.

Equally important, though, scholars are expected to return to enrich the academic, cultural, business and political life of their home country.

"Now it's time to complete my mission and go home and start making use of my knowledge for others."

After more than 40 years, the Commonwealth Scholarship is a landmark achievement in Commonwealth cooperation. There are some 500 scholars in the program each year and more than 22,000 scholarship alumni around the world. Some of them are the first PhDs in their countries, becoming leaders in academia, research, business and government. A distinctive feature is the two-way flow of students: Canadians travel abroad to study, for example, while scholars from Commonwealth nations come here.

"It's a proud tradition," says Alan Bowker, Director of International Academic Relations for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). "It's part of a bigger picture of encouraging the freer movement of people, information and ideas in the world."

Canada's participation in the Commonwealth Scholarship, the flagship of several major academic studies programs financed by DFAIT, complements Canadian foreign policy, Bowker says. Canada promotes its identity abroad by assisting foreign scholars, but also gains from the culture, values and experiences of the international students who come to study. "This is the human dimension of foreign policy."

Of the 180 Commonwealth scholars currently at Canadian universities, 51 come from more than a dozen countries in Africa, with the remainder from 30 other nations.

In 2002, a DFAIT-sponsored evaluation of the Commonwealth Scholarship and a similar program offered in non-Commonwealth countries called the Government of Canada Award found that more than 90 percent of recipients credited Canada with assisting their career aspirations. Some 72 percent had returned home following their studies.

Even when they do not return home to stay, Commonwealth scholars find other ways to give back to their homeland. When an attempted coup closed Kenya's universities in 1982, first-year student Njeri Marekia Cleaveland won a scholarship to complete her undergraduate education at a small private college in upstate New York. There, at the urging of a Canadian-trained teacher,

she applied for and was granted a Commonwealth Scholarship to complete a post-graduate program in environmental studies at York University in Toronto.

"It's part of a bigger picture of encouraging the freer movement of people, information and ideas in the world."

Marekia-Cleaveland later earned two law degrees in Britain and the United States, before returning home to teach at Nairobi's Kenyatta University in the mid-1990s. Now married to an American, she is currently an African specialist at the International Center for Democratic Governance at the University of Georgia in Atlanta, where she conducts specialized training programs for government officials in several African countries.

A highly decorated academic, Marekia-Cleaveland says that her experience as a Commonwealth scholar in Canada shaped her world view. She recalls the pleasant shock of rubbing shoulders at York with a diverse student body—a first in her academic career. During her scholarship-sponsored field research in Alberta and British Columbia, she also witnessed conflicts between development and conservation similar to those at home.

"When I talked about urban issues in the global sense, I could see that Canada was suffering from the same things as Kenya," she says, "and I could see that some of the things that worked in Canada might work in Kenya, too."

Her former mentor at York, Ted Spence, now a senior adviser to the university's president, sees the reciprocal benefits of the Commonwealth Scholarship. "Someone like Njeri enriches the experiences of Canadian students, just as she was enriched by coming to Canada."

Though they come from different countries and academic disciplines, Commonwealth scholars say the award's value extends far beyond the immediate educational benefit.

"It's been a liberating experience," says Olaiya, who is grateful for several years of uninterrupted study that would have been impossible at home. Beyond honing his academic mission, Olaiya says that his exposure to Canadian values, such as respect for diversity of people and ideas, has paid an unexpected dividend. "It has taught me to give back," he says. With Canada in mind, he plans to set up a scholarship for Nigerian students in the name of his late father. 🍁

York University: Commonwealth scholars encounter a diverse student body on campus.



To find out more about the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan and other Canadian and international scholarship programs, see www.scholarships-bourses-ca.org.

AFRICA JOURNAL

Each year, hundreds of young Canadians work in Africa as part of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy (YES). The YES Career Focus program gives post-secondary graduates aged 19 to 30 the opportunity to gain international experience in such fields as social development, agriculture, the media, human rights, business and law. Through the magic of the World Wide Web, these youths are sharing their work experiences, observations, challenges and opportunities via on-line journals and success stories presented by DFAIT and CIDA. *Canada World View* brings you some examples of their prolific, colourful—and thought-provoking—on-line writings.

To read more of these stories and to find out about career opportunities for young Canadians through CIDA's International Youth Internship Program and DFAIT's Young Professionals International, visit CIDA's Youth Zone at www.cida.gc.ca/youthzone and DFAIT's site at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/yip-jpi. For information about other government departments participating in Career Focus, visit www.youth.gc.ca.



Dan Garrison
Victoria, BC
eThekwin Housing
Department,
South Africa

Durban is an incredible place. Under the apartheid system, segregation characterized the city. Since apartheid ended in 1994, that segregation has begun to break down. This means the city centre is now bustling with informal markets and street sellers. Mini-bus taxis have completely taken over downtown streets. They drive wildly to the thump of hip-hop music.

I work as a HIV/AIDS and housing program officer with the eThekwin Housing Department. HIV/AIDS is probably the most serious challenge facing "the new South Africa." KwaZulu-Natal is at the centre of the AIDS epidemic. Around 35 percent of adults in this province are HIV-positive. With those levels of infection, I expected to see the impact of the disease everywhere. Strangely, life here seems to be proceeding more or less as normal. There's only one way I can tell I'm in the middle of an epidemic, and that's the number of children on the streets of Durban. AIDS tends to claim the lives of people aged 20 to 40. That's the age when they would be caring for their children. As a result of HIV/AIDS, it is estimated that there will be 470,000 orphans on the streets of KwaZulu-Natal by 2010. Yes, 470,000! Ways must be found to house these children in a caring and community-oriented environment. This is one of the biggest challenges to come.

IN BRIEF

Canada-France 2004

This year, Canada and France are commemorating the 400th anniversary of the first French settlement in North America, and everyone's invited to the celebration. The countries are marking four centuries of continuous relations dating back to 1604, when Pierre Du Gua de Monts settled on Sainte Croix Island with famous cartographer Samuel de Champlain.

The Canada-France 2004 Programme aims to promote Canada's cultural, tourism and economic interests in France, as well as to

commemorate four centuries of dialogue and discovery between the two countries.

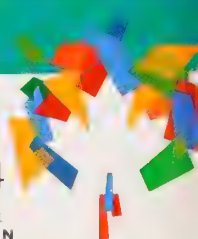
The program features a number of activities, including an exhibition on contemporary Canada at the *Cité des sciences et de l'industrie* in Paris, two *Maisons d'interprétation* in Normandy and Charente-maritime, a genealogical research program, the digitization of the archives common to Canada and France and a high-tech installation called the cyber/explorer.

CANADA-FRANCE 1604-2004

CANADA, UN ESPACE POUR L'IMAGINATION

In Canada, the year will also be marked by an exhibition of valuable artifacts from the New France period, which opens in June at the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Find out more about Canada-France 2004 and the year's special events at www.canada-2004.org.





Hannah Cooper
Montreal, QC
United Nations
Development
Programme, Namibia

Namibia is divided into privately owned lands and communal lands. Conservancies unite groups of farmers and rural communities who live on these communal lands. Because the lands are not privately owned, the people who live on them have limited rights over their natural resources. Conservancies provide a management structure. They grant communities certain rights over their natural resources.

At the end of the week, I got a lift with my colleague Sonja from Namibia Nature Foundation out to Khoadi Hoas Conservancy. The project there in part involves minimizing conflicts between elephants and humans over water. I visited one of the water points that the Conservancy will protect from elephants. I met the farmers who will directly benefit from the project. Because the land is so arid, elephants and farmers compete fiercely for water. Apparently, a thirsty elephant is a dangerous elephant. Many farmers have seen their livestock killed, their water points destroyed and their homesteads seriously damaged. Using funds from the Small Grants Program, the Conservancy will protect existing water points. It will also build additional water points exclusively for elephants to use.



Geneviève Asselin
Bellechasse, QC
CONGEH (HIV/AIDS
and gender project),
Cameroon

I wanted to set up a little vegetable garden in the front yard of our apartment. That's when I realized how much we residents of the neighbourhood could do to improve our living conditions.

The neighbourhood has a serious problem: managing waste and making residents realize the importance of sanitation. My friend and I are two enterprising and innovative women who have responded to this problem by starting to reuse our organic waste to make compost. We set up a community composter in the yard of our apartment for all tenants to use. We then launched a clean-up campaign with the tenants of the building. We sought to make them aware that waste was piling up in a space that could be used as a vegetable garden to meet their food requirements. Some laughed mockingly. Some were pessimistic. Others were doubtful. Eventually, some tenants got involved in clearing, fertilizing and setting up the garden.

Thanks to the tenants' involvement, we now have a community vegetable garden. We have planted pistachio nuts, sugar cane, beans, watermelons, yams, sweet potatoes, papayas, mangoes and bananas. We have a composter that will enrich the soil for future crops. Change begins at home, and development starts with involvement at the grassroots level.



Graham Willis
Toronto, ON
Ministry of Justice
and Supreme Court,
Cape Verde

It's just a matter of days now [until I finish my human rights work here.] Days until the dusty streets, toothless smiles, shoeless children, cobbled streets, a waterless home and Krioulu are behind me, becoming a place so far away, distant and mythical. And the concrete, skyscrapers, consumerism, human coldness and greed will surround me once again, oblivious to that place where a soccer ball or bicycle rim provides all the happiness in the world.

What is this place that was so foreign and alien for four months, this place where children sit on your lap when there is no more room on the bus, where a rural subsistence farmer gives you his last egg, where kindness and care have no limits, not for money, not for property or goods, not for anything?

Suddenly I see the ignorance in the world, and where it lies, it lies in me, in my desire to leave this place, to abandon it, to return to bigger things and a secure life. Suddenly I see why this place remains so polarized from my land. What do I leave behind here? What have my efforts resulted in? What have I done? And of those back home? How will I ever explain this to them? Do they care to listen? Do they have the time? Will the reality of my experiences even hit home for someone else? Will they ever care to open their eyes to the rest of the world?

Update on Afghanistan

Canada's 3D—diplomacy, defence and development—effort continues in Afghanistan (see *Canada World View* Issue 20).

Canadian Lieutenant-General Rick Hillier has assumed command of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kabul, Afghanistan. In addition, a new contingent of Canadian Forces has assumed responsibilities there, renewing Canada's involvement in the ISAF mission to help maintain security in Kabul and the surrounding area so that the

Afghan Transitional Authority and UN agencies can function.

See lots of new features and get the most up-to-date news on Canada's involvement in Afghanistan at www.canada-afghanistan.gc.ca.

Adventure Starts Here!

Thinking of working, studying or visiting abroad? A new Web site called Youth...On the Move! offered by DFAIT's Youth and Academic Mobility Unit for Europe makes it easy for young people to look for exciting job, educational and travel opportunities overseas.

The 21st century brings with it possibilities for young Canadians and Europeans to work or travel on both sides of the Atlantic. The new Web site is designed to promote youth and academic programs in both Canada and Europe. Find out more about international work and volunteer opportunities, internships and apprenticeships, scholarships, grants and bursaries, travel tips, the experiences of others abroad—and much more!

Start on your road to adventure at www.youthonthemove.gc.ca.



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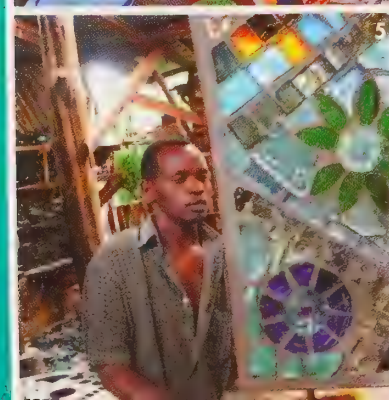
Street Scene

When she moved to Nairobi, Kenya in 2001, Ottawa photographer Tonia Turner became fascinated with street artists and the rich burst of colour they bring to the urban landscape as they make and sell their wares, and she began photographing them. The result is an exhibition of photographs called *Misiani Wai Kenya* (Artisans of Kenya).

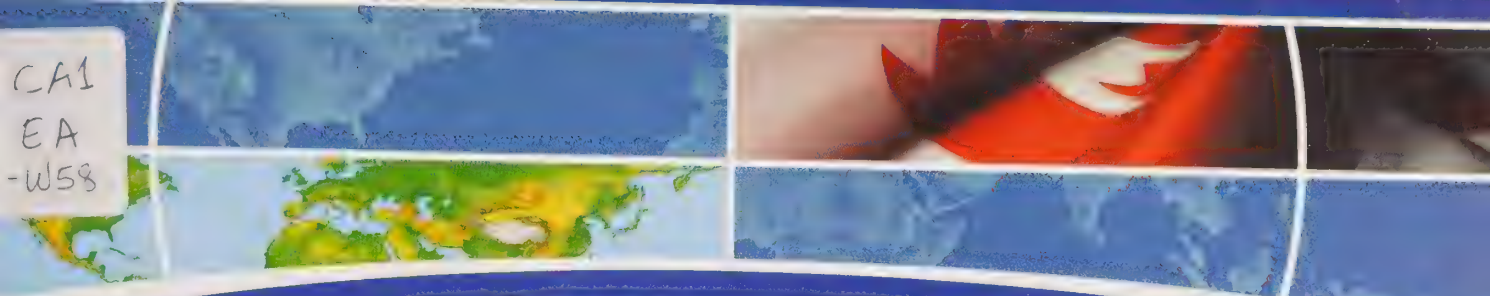
Turner, a photo editor and archivist in Nairobi, says that her "personal interest in creative individuals and their artistic output draws me into their environments. Their work—in contrast to that of many Canadian artists—takes place in public, often in open shops or by the side of the road. This affords us the opportunity to interact with them and to see how they transform wood into striking sculptures, papyrus plants into furniture, beads into works of art and adornment, nylon into vibrant baskets and recycled glass into brilliant murals."

1. Mary Wanjiru
Wool carpets
2. (left to right) Martin Joroge
and Samuel Njoroge
Painted terra cotta pots
3. (left to right) Naniaku Shikuna,
Naisai Rasha and Tolash Nigai
Bead necklaces
4. John Kiengora
Wood sculpture
5. Amos Wandimo
Stained glass
6. Mathew Mwangangi
Grass baskets

(Photo: Tonia Turner)



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Canada World View

ISSUE 22 • SUMMER 2004

Work in Progress Canada and the new EU

Canadian Culture
on the Continent

War Bonds: Sacrifice
and Celebration

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Our cover

The European Union flag is unfurled on a background of metal scaffolding. The addition to the EU of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus and Malta has integrated Europe in an unprecedented manner, while providing a final chapter for both the Second World War and the Cold War.

(Photo: European Community, 1994)

This page

Fireworks and blue light illuminate Berlin's Schauspielhaus theatre and a choir of children from the 25 EU countries sings to mark the Union's historic enlargement.

(Photo: CP/Tony Stone)

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A FOREIGN POLICY AGENDA FOR CANADA

Michael Ignatieff, the award-winning author, historian and Carr Professor of Human Rights Policy at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, in March presented the annual O.D. Skelton Memorial Lecture at Foreign Affairs Canada. His address was entitled *Peace, Order and Good Government: A Foreign Policy Agenda for Canada*. The following are excerpts.



Professor Michael Ignatieff: Every country has to focus on what it does best.

For better—and sometimes for worse—peace, order and good government, and the institutions that anchor this creed in our national life, have been the guarantor of our national independence and our national distinctiveness. The success of this creed makes our country one of the most sought-after destinations for migration in the world. Our capacity to resolve our conflicts peacefully means that we have survived where many other multinational, multi-ethnic, regionalized societies have failed. For all our justified concerns about corruption in government, by the standards of Transparency International, Canada remains one of the best governed countries in the world. Our commitment to human rights, tolerance and diversity is not abstract and it is not optional: given how diverse we have become, it is the very condition of our survival as a distinct people. These ideas—peace, order and good government—are not just a cluster of values. They define our national interest. They are the precondition of our national independence.

If this way of reading our national interest and our values is correct, what are the implications for the public policy of our country overseas? How should these values and interests drive our engagement with the external world?

To answer this question, we need to identify the global trends that most deeply impinge upon our interests as a country and to specify the particular skills we can bring to the solution of the problems that threaten peace, order and good government in the world at large.

Every country has to focus on what it does best, where its comparative advantage lies. My suggestion is that Canada needs to do something about the long-standing—but

now decisive—crisis in state order that is sweeping the world, undermining peace, order and good government in as many as 30 of the world's states.

As long as ordinary people are misruled—whether in states collapsing into chaos or rigidifying into tyranny—they cannot benefit from globalization, technology, science and progress. Without states that work—states that deliver real security and real services to their people—the promise of globalization will remain a cruel sham. Without capable states, global governance is a fiction.

If this diagnosis of the vital security challenge before Canada is correct, then what policies do we need to develop to meet it?

The focus of our foreign policy should be to consolidate peace, order and good government as the *sine qua non* for stable states, enduring democracy and equitable development. Other countries will always have larger development budgets than we do, but few countries know as much as we do about the intimate causal relation between good government and good development. Just as other nations—like the Norwegians—have specialized in peace-making, through the Oslo process and the Sri Lankan processes, so we should specialize in a policy framework that brings all our “governance” activity together in a single powerful program of action.

“As long as ordinary people are misruled—whether in states collapsing into chaos or rigidifying into tyranny—they cannot benefit from globalization, technology, science and progress...Without capable states, global governance is a fiction.”

I prefer "peace, order and good government" to "governance" as an organizing frame for Canadian activities simply because it articulates a specifically Canadian expression of what governance ought to be about: democratic institutions, federalism, minority rights guarantees, linguistic pluralism, aboriginal self-government and a positive, enabling role for government in economic and social development.

In democratic societies that are stable and capable of development, Canadian policy can assist with improving

"We need to shed the Canadian sense of immunity and impunity, that deeply rooted belief that we are safe from history's dangers. Our sense of national interest could use a certain sober measure of fear."

the institutional design and operation of governance. Where societies, in political theorist John Rawls' phrase, are "burdened" with ethnic conflict, religious hatred or a bit-

ter memory of civil war, we need to perfect a tool kit of preventive intervention: conflict resolution at the village and community level, political dialogue at the national level, constitutional change in the form of devolution to empower disenfranchised regions or groups, and minority rights guarantees to end discrimination and injustice. No country has managed to put all of these elements of prevention—conflict resolution, political dialogue, constitutional change, together with economic assistance—into a coherent stand-by capability, bringing together non-governmental organization, government and professional capacities. That is a challenge we should seize as

a country, since, as I have argued, we have comparative advantage in the politics of managing divided societies.

This is muscular multilateralism. Developing these capabilities would help the UN raise its own capacity to deploy to prevent conflict before it starts and rebuild after it is over. Such a program would demonstrate that Canada is prepared to make a serious investment in sustaining and developing the capacity of states to shoulder the burdens that globalization has placed upon them. "Global governance" and "international community" are empty slogans as long as the states that compose our global order lack the capacity to protect their citizens and enhance their lives. If Canada fails to help solve the growing global crisis of state order—in the 20 to 30 states that are burdened, failing or failed—our commitment to "global governance" will be hollow, for global governance means nothing unless states have the capacity to take part in global solutions to our common problems.

A focus upon peace, order and good government helps us meet a vital national interest. Just as we want to maintain our own national independence, to safeguard the land we care about, so we want to help others to do the same. If we love our own land, we have good reasons to help others create political orders that deserve the same fierce attachment.

Finally, we need to shed the Canadian sense of immunity and impunity, that deeply rooted belief that we are safe from history's dangers. Our sense of national interest could use a certain sober measure of fear. A global order in which states are no longer able to protect their own people and their own territory presents Canada with real and growing danger. But we have the resources—and most of all, the political memory—that gives us a unique ability to turn danger into opportunity. ♣

The Lecture

The O.D. Skelton Memorial Lecture encourages a scholarly examination of topics related to Canada's international relations. Inaugurated in December 1991, it honours O.D. Skelton, a prime architect of the Department of External Affairs (now Foreign Affairs Canada) and of Canadian foreign policy.

Skelton, a prolific scholar and the author of several major books, was appointed by Prime Minister W.L. Mackenzie King in 1925 to succeed Sir Joseph Pope as Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. Until his death in January 1941, Skelton served as the principal adviser to the Prime Minister, sometimes called the "deputy prime minister." Mackenzie King described Skelton's death as "the most serious loss thus far sustained in my public



O.D. Skelton

life!" One Canadian historian has called him simply the most powerful civil servant in Canadian history.

As head of the Department of External Affairs, Skelton helped to define a distinct Canadian foreign policy. He also was responsible for the recruitment of a remarkably able group of officers, highlighted by two governors general (Georges Vanier and Jules Léger) and one prime minister (Lester B. Pearson), as well as numerous senior mandarins.

For more information about O.D. Skelton and the lecture series, as well texts of this and past lectures, see www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/skelton/lectures.

CANADA AND THE NEW EUROPE



New levels of cooperation on security and foreign policy, the transatlantic movement of people, goods and services, and closer trade and investment links are bringing Canada and the European Union closer.

It is a relationship four centuries in the making. From the earliest arrival of French explorers on the shores of a small island in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River in June 1604, Europe and Canada have forged close ties. As the EU undergoes the largest enlargement in its 47-year history, Canadians and Europeans are marking a similar milestone in relations, with new levels of cooperation on security and foreign policy, the transatlantic movement of people, goods and services, and closer trade and investment links than ever before.

"We've taken the strategic relationship between Canada and the EU to another level," remarked Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, the EU's current president, at the close of a bi-annual summit between Canada and the EU held in Ottawa in March. The summit between Mr. Ahern, European Commission

President Romano Prodi and Prime Minister Paul Martin marks an era of reinforced cooperation between Europe and Canada, the most complex relationship between the EU and any non-member country.

The leaders adopted a Partnership Agenda intensifying links between Canada and the EU on a wide range of issues of joint interest. They also set the framework for a future trade and investment agreement that will make doing business between the two progressively easier. It is

a landmark in the long cross-Atlantic history that will "move our relationship up a rung," Mr. Prodi declared.

EU-25

There is some irony that on May 1, the great workers' holiday in central Europe's not-so-distant Communist past, three countries that had been part of the old Soviet Union and five more that had been under tight Soviet

control were formally welcomed into the EU. The addition of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, along with the five former Soviet satellites—the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia—as well as the Mediterranean island states of Cyprus and Malta has integrated Europe in an unprecedented manner, while providing a final chapter for both the Second World War and the Cold War.

Though historic and dramatic, it will be some time before the impact of the EU enlargement is felt in Canada. The 10 new members (see "In Brief: The New EU Countries" on page 19) boost the EU's population by 20 percent to 450 million people, but they are have-nots in the developed world. Their average per-capita income is less than half of that among the original 15 EU countries, and their combined national economies are roughly equal in size to that of the Netherlands. This provides little



A girl waves the flags of EU countries during an EU enlargement party in Zittau, Germany, marking the official entry of bordering Poland and the Czech Republic into the EU.

prospect for great leaps forward in the trading relationship either with the newest states or with the EU as a whole. However, there is considerable investment potential for Canadian companies, particularly for those that have already established trade and investment relationships or branch operations in the region. The new EU members offer well-educated populations, particularly in science and engineering, lower costs of labour and, in some cases, favourable corporate tax rates.

Enhancing trade and investment

The EU is Canada's second-largest trading partner, albeit a distant second to the United States, with two-way trade equal to less than 10 percent of that between Canada and the U.S. However, these statistics do not accurately reflect Europe's economic importance to Canada. Direct investment in Europe as of December 2003 represented 29 percent of total Canadian outward investment, up from 25 percent a year earlier. The share represented by investment in the U.S. fell from 46 percent to 41 percent in the same period.

Many well-known Canadian firms are household names in Europe: Alcan Inc., Bombardier Inc. and Magna International Inc. each have 10 plants in Germany alone. Some 50 percent of Alcan's business is in Europe, compared with 35 percent in North America. Bombardier and Nortel Networks Corp. are the largest employers in Northern Ireland. A vast amount of EU Internet traffic is carried on Nortel equipment.

Siegfried Wolf, Vice-Chairman of Canadian auto parts giant Magna International, says the company has built

seven new facilities in Eastern Europe in the past seven years. The company anticipates a continued shift eastward of vehicle production to the new EU states of Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic. Eastern European vehicle production is forecast to grow by 57 percent through the rest of the decade. "This is an excellent base for future markets," Wolf says.

In an effort to improve access to markets and bring considerable benefits to companies and consumers, Canada and the EU have agreed to a framework for a Trade and Investment Enhancement Agreement, or TIEA. An ambitious bilateral initiative, the agreement is designed to prevent and eliminate unnecessary barriers to trade and investment while ensuring better quality and efficiency of regulations. The TIEA would also look to address diverse areas such as trade and investment facilitation, competition, financial services, science and technology, and the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

The Canadian advantage

Canada is increasingly seen by Europe as among the leaders in such diverse areas as fiscal responsibility, governance, the integration of immigrants into society and technological innovation, particularly in the emerging biotechnology and nanotechnology sectors. Europe also looks to Canada as the model to follow in wireless technology and e-government.

A report published in May by Accenture Inc., an international technology consulting firm, named Canada as the world's most electronically advanced government—ahead even of the U.S.—for the fourth consecutive year, and noted that Canada is increasing its advantage every year. Of the EU countries, only Denmark made the survey's top five. Canadian wireless technology developed for far-flung northern communities is also of keen interest to Europeans, particularly those new EU members looking to skip a generation in telecommunications development as they rid themselves of antiquated Communist-era equipment.

Geography and membership in the North American Free Trade Area are also important advantages, particularly for European firms looking to Canada as a gateway to the U.S. "If you're a French investor, for instance, you might see Quebec as a more friendly environment because of the common language," says Fen Hampson, Director of Carleton University's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. "Or if you're an investor who is concerned about who is going to pay for your employees' health care, Ontario may be attractive. Because of NAFTA, Europe is seeing more than just the U.S. when they see North America."



Close relations: (left to right) EU President, Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin and European Commission President Romano Prodi at the Canada-EU Summit in Ottawa on March 18.

Close relations and global challenges

The increased visibility for Canada in Europe is also a function of the similarity of positions of the two on global issues. While inextricably linked with the U.S. at the geographic and economic levels, Canada has voted with the EU on 50 out of 52 United Nations General Assembly security resolutions in which the EU members had a common position last year, while the U.S. voted with the European bloc only 21 times.

Canada was shocked and saddened by the terrorist bombings in Madrid. Effective, consistent and coherent international action and cooperation is essential to prevent further attacks and to eradicate situations that foster poverty and inequality. That is why Canada and the EU will continue to work together for a revitalized UN system, and to seek agreement on rules to protect people from civil conflict and state failure. Canada and the EU continue to develop deeper relations and cooperation in justice and policing, working to increase the legitimate movement of people between Canada and the EU to encourage mobility among our citizens, while at the same time enhancing safeguards to combat illegal migration.

Jeremy Kinsman, the Canadian Ambassador to the EU, says that Canadians and Europeans need to show the international community that they can deal with "hard" as well as "soft" security challenges. "The fact that today's great and destabilizing dangers—poverty, diseases, trafficking in humans and drugs, environmental change, terrorism and the proliferation of weapons—have no regard for borders requires us to work within common international strategies," he says. "We can perhaps provide a model for a more collective, multilateral approach."

The importance of protecting the natural environment is also a key shared concern. Canada and Europe are cooperating in researching alternative energy sources and taking steps to combat climate change. In addition, there is a need to explore all means to conserve fish stocks. Canada is undertaking measures to curb overfishing in the area off Newfoundland and continues to work closely with the EU to pursue improvements in the behaviour of fishing fleets.

The Canada-Europa dialogue

Canada's economic and political relationship with the EU is comprehensive and long-standing. In 1976, Canada was the first non-European country to sign a framework agreement on political cooperation with what was then the European Economic Community. Over the years, the Canada-EU relationship has been strengthened by a host of other agreements in areas such as education, customs, competition, science and technology, and nuclear matters.



photo: Arilla Kibenedek Agency France Press

Fireworks are seen over a monument to Hungarian kings at the Hero's Square of Budapest as Hungary celebrates the EU enlargement.

In the context of globalization and the new world order, the relationship between Canada and Europe faces new demands and offers new opportunities. Government of Canada delegations visiting Europe last fall and again this spring met with government, business and civil society contacts to explore the building of new bridges between modern Canada and an expanded Europe. "Canada is committed to cooperating closely with Europe to achieve our common goals in a number of areas, from business and international security to trade and culture," says Paul Dubois, the Assistant Deputy Minister for Europe at Foreign Affairs Canada. "We have struck an ambitious road map for future cooperation."

People-to-people links

Canadians and Europeans have a long history of connections. This year, Canada and France are marking 400 years of continuous relations, dating back to Pierre Du Gua de Monts' arrival at Sainte Croix Island, with famous cartographer Samuel de Champlain, to establish the first French settlement in North America.

There is much that we have in common. Indeed, a recent poll by Pollara Inc. showed that 85 percent of Canadians want to develop even deeper ties with the region. Canada has long recognized the inherent value of exchange between Canadians and Europeans, and continues to encourage more opportunities for cross-Atlantic connections—be they academic, cultural or professional. There are opportunities to broaden the scope of Canadian and EU exchange programs for young people, to reinforce and expand cooperation on higher education and training, to support more business-to-business contacts and to encourage discussions among parliamentarians.

Canada is projecting a stronger image than ever before as a technologically modern country with sound economic fundamentals and as something of a global cultural power. "Europeans are reading Margaret Atwood," says Hampson. "Europeans are reading Mavis Gallant. Everybody knows who Celine Dion is. So, in some ways that we have not in the past, we have some major global cultural symbols, and

there is no question that that helps you in terms of your global image."

The Partnership Agenda

The new Partnership Agenda adopted at the summit in Ottawa marks a qualitative leap in Canada's relationship with the EU. The Agenda represents a commitment to working together, to strengthening ties between the two regions, to translating shared values of political pluralism, democracy, rule of law and human rights into concrete action on the ground, and

to making multilateral institutions more effective.

Recognizing that the Canada-EU bilateral relationship, though in place since 1976, has often been more form than action, the Agenda sets out more than 50 initiatives intended to strengthen contacts at the political level. The Agenda is a reflection of the shared commitment to secu-

CanadaEuropa Cyber-diplomacy

Canadians and Europeans are meeting cybernetically through an extensive Web site that builds relationships and bridges across many cultures.

Abbie Dann, Director of European Business Development and Connectivity at Foreign Affairs Canada, says that www.canadaeuropa.gc.ca is designed not only to provide service and information to Canadians, but also to present an image of Canada that resonates with audiences in Europe. "This is a conceptual place on-line that celebrates and builds on cross-Atlantic connections," she adds. "It simply represents a new way for Canadians to engage in diplomacy with Europe."

The name "Europa" was chosen because it evokes linguistic roots that cross many languages, and "pushes the boundaries for those who may sometimes only think of Western countries when they think of Europe," says Dann.

Today, www.canadaeuropa.gc.ca welcomes more than 3.3 million visitors and receives more than 77 million hits a year. It represents partnerships with Government of Canada departments across the country and Web teams in more than 20 countries.

rity and multilateral institutions, global economic growth, cooperation on governance, action on global challenges and greater opportunities for people-to-people connections.

Looking to the future

That the EU has named Canada one of its six key strategic partners, ranking it with the U.S., Russia, China, Japan and India, is an indication of the significance Canada has for Europe. Observers say that Canadians have a stake in the Europeans' success in the historic act of achieving lasting peace and democracy in their expanding mass of land. There are many challenges—but also opportunities—ahead. "Succeeding in Europe isn't a strategy of choice," says Mr. Kinsman. "It's a Canadian imperative." 🍁



photo: CP (Sven Kjaer)

A Polish woman and a child look out of a window under the European flag in the city of Slubice as the country enters the EU.

PRESENT AT THE CREATION

As Canadian Ambassador to the European Union, Jeremy Kinsman sees opportunities for Canada in Europe's changing landscape.



photo: Hana Kinsman

Europe had a different shape when Jeremy Kinsman took his first foreign posting in 1968 as a political officer in Canada's start-up mission to what was then the European Economic Community in Brussels. The maps on the office walls were of the six founding members of the EEC, but, reflecting a post-war idealism, among them were Tuscany and Bavaria and Normandy; not Italy, Germany and France. Canada, meanwhile, was trying to use Britain's renewed interest in joining the EEC to gain profile on the continent. It was, he says, an "unrequited love."

Nearly four decades later, Mr. Kinsman's career has come full circle, as Canadian ambassador to a greatly expanded and much more powerful European Union in Brussels. And Canada's voice is not only being heard, but is being sought by the Europeans in dealing with issues ranging from immigration and human rights to relations with the United States.

Mr. Kinsman, 62, says it was his belief in Pearsonian idealism, "a sense that you could make the world better," that inspired him to join the Canadian foreign service at 24. Those values continue to shape him and his beliefs about Canada's global role in the 21st century.

"I'm an international humanist, with a concern for the world community, which is what Canada is all about," says the Montreal native. "I believe in a multilateral approach to dealing with the world's problems. Those problems have changed since I first came to Brussels in 1968, but there remains the same need to find a global system, a global strategy and global instruments that work."

Mr. Kinsman's approach has trickled down to his everyday interactions in his assignments to Algeria, New York and Washington, and for the last 12 years as a representative in Europe, as Ambassador to Moscow and to Rome and as High Commissioner to London. In Moscow, where he served in the tumultuous post-Soviet period from 1993 to 1996, he instituted a new openness in relations with the Russian population by overturning a Cold War policy that had banned locals who were employed by the

mission and even Russian spouses of Canadian citizens from the Canada Club in the embassy basement.

"We had to show the Russians, on a human level, that this was not a master/slave relationship," he says. "We didn't have to give them access to secret files, but surely we could let them have a drink with us."

Reinforcing his determination to demonstrate Western openness were the experiences of his wife Hana, a refugee from Soviet-dominated Czechoslovakia who admits to "crying at night for two months" when Mr. Kinsman was posted to Moscow, but who had a warm and binding experience with the new Russia once they were there. Those connections to the Czech Republic are helpful now in providing insight into the 10 newest members of the EU, primarily countries of the former Warsaw Pact.

Mr. Kinsman calls the EU "a work in progress—like living in a changing landscape." He is convinced that the expanded union, with its 450 million people, creates enormous opportunities for Canada, both because of the wealth of Europe and because of the new light in which Canada is perceived. He sees his main job as a communicator for Canada, with the goal of trying to win a bigger share of EU investment in North America.

"When I first came here, Canada wasn't really noticed. Today it is because we have earned a reputation in Europe through our economic performance, through our fiscal performance and through our commitment to multilateralism."

Canada's entrepreneurial and social development are seen in the EU as attractive compromises between Europe's sense of social responsibility and the drive for all-out market-supremacy Europeans see in the U.S.

"Europeans are looking to Canadians for insight into how we manage," he says, "because increasingly they see we're managing pretty well." ♣

**For more information about
Canada's mission to the EU, visit
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/EU.**

Ambassador Jeremy Kinsman on the Charles Bridge in Prague: "Living in a changing landscape."

AS OTHERS SEE US

From the paintings of lakes and mountains by The Group of Seven to the avant-garde staging of Robert Lepage, Canadian culture portrays and promotes Canada to a continent steeped in the arts.

When first-time Canadian novelist Lilian Nattel was ready with her debut manuscript six years ago, Dutch, German and British editions hit the presses at the same time as those for Canada.

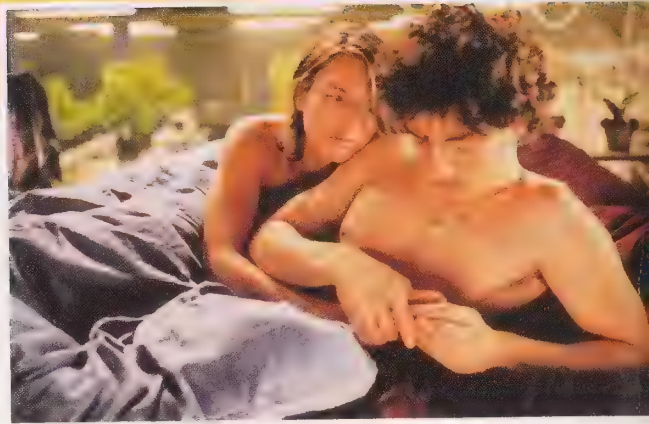
Evoking the village life of Torontonians Nattel's Eastern European forebears, *The River Midnight* rapidly became a literary success in the European Union based on a formula that was both highly personal and distinctively Canadian.

Nattel's work is typical of a wide range of Canadian culture that has proven highly resonant across the Atlantic. Filmmaker Atom Egoyan, multimedia director Robert Lepage, visual artist Jeff Wall and author Margaret Atwood have made waves in Europe with individual, even quirky visions that are resolutely made in Canada.

Such cultural figures are important elements of Canada's global brand, one that garners recognition all over the world but particularly in Europe. On a continent so deeply steeped in the arts, Canada's credibility in the cultural arena strengthens all aspects of our country's international relations.

"Most foreigners have a very posi-

tive view of Canada, often based on an image of lakes and mountains," declares Michael Brock, Director General of



Marie-Josée Croze is Celia and David Alpay is Raffi in Atom Egoyan's *Ararat*.

International Cultural Relations for Foreign Affairs Canada (EAC) in Ottawa. "Showcasing our sophisticated, innovative and cutting-edge artistic achievements provides a much deeper understanding of our country."

Europeans are clearly finding a number of intellectually useful resources among Canadian cultural products. Multiculturalism, for example, is a leading social and political concern today in many rapidly changing EU countries. Canada is widely acknowledged as a significant mentor nation on the issue, and the evidence is on view with practically every Canadian urban novel and dance company that reaches Europe.

"Canada is a country where people are consciously trying to develop and accommodate others in a civilized, humane manner," says Harmut Lutz, Chair of North American Studies at the University of Greifswald in Germany and currently a visiting scholar at the University of Ottawa.

Academic exchanges, conferences and educational forums are important means by which Canadian culture becomes known and discussed. There are approximately 2,700 European "Canadianists" and some 108 European universities that feature Canadian Studies programs. Yet ordinary European spectators marvelling at a performance of Quebec's Cirque Éloize also generate awareness and respect.

"It benefits everyone when we're known through our artists, and not just our big stars," comments John Lambert, the Montreal agent who represents Cirque Éloize and others such as the Ronnie Burkett Theatre of Marionettes. "It gives a feeling of who we are."

Lambert can look at the eclectic performers he favours and see the messages communicated through them. "Canada is a young country and we're not so tied to



Tom Hopkins's *Delicate Balance*: Contemporary work speaks strongly to new generations of Europeans.

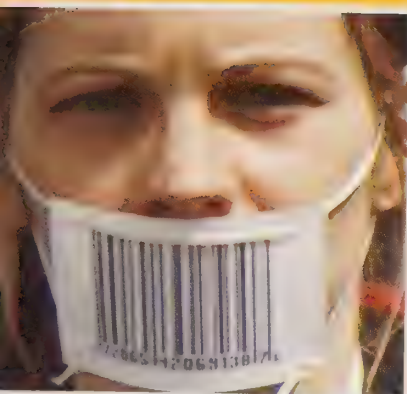


photo: courtesy of Big Picture Media Corporation

Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott's *The Corporation*

traditional definitions of form," he observes. "The kinds of work we produce as Canadians are often mixed form, mixed expression, and make a kind of cocktail which is Canadian."

Lepage, renowned Canadian designer-director of opera, theatre, film and other media, is a model of the form-mixing artist; he's also the winner of some of Europe's most prestigious honours, most recently Denmark's Hans Christian Andersen Award for his play based on Andersen's fairy tale, *The Dryad*.

The Man Booker Prize, one of the most prestigious literary awards in the English-speaking world, has especially smiled on Canada. Twelve books written by Canadians have made its short list and three have won: *The English Patient* by Michael Ondaatje, *The Blind Assassin* by Atwood and *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel.

Such recognition is valuable not only to individual artists, but also to Canada's broader foreign policy, trade and security interests. "Other countries judge us by our culture and values," observes Renetta Siemens, Director of Arts and Cultural Industries Promotion for FAC. "This assessment in turn has an impact on our political, business and security relationships."

Canadian publishing has been a big European story in recent years, making a splash in high-profile settings like the Turin and Belgrade book fairs. Of course, novelists such as Rohinton Mistry and Anne Michaels have an established overseas presence. Yet even Canadian non-fiction on themes like the environment has made remarkable inroads, says Rob Sanders, publisher of Greystone Books in Vancouver. "There is an increasing confidence, a maturing in this non-fiction work."

Sales of cultural products are vital yet often a limited measure of influence. Canadians are proud of their international superstars in popular music, including performers Celine Dion, Shania Twain and Diana Krall. But a distinctive impact by Canadian artists often involves far smaller revenues.

"It's our most artistic filmmakers who travel really well in Europe," observes Cam Haynes, a director of the

Toronto International Film Festival. "They're not the box office successes, they're the critical successes."

Egoyan, whose esoteric work has earned him the title Chevalier des Arts et Lettres from the French government, is an obvious example, although even a relatively big-budget director such as David Cronenberg can bring far more esthetic influence than earnings. Other internationally recognized Canadian filmmakers include Denys Arcand, whose *Les invasions barbares* won an Oscar, and Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott, who won a Sundance Documentary Award for *The Corporation*.

Canada's traditional art also plays an important role and still has an iconic value in projecting an image of Canada internationally. The Group of Seven, with their "lakes and mountains" paintings, remain Canada's best-known artists, generally fetching the highest prices on the auction block. Yet a range of contemporary work by artists like Vancouver's Jeff Wall, Lethbridge, Alberta native Janet Cardiff and Montreal's Tom Hopkins, whose work was recently featured at EUROP'Art 2004 in Geneva, speaks strongly to new generations of Europeans.

Says Olga Korper, the owner of a Toronto art gallery representing such internationally emergent talents as installation artist Angela Grauerholz and photographer Lynne Cohen: "The fact that excellent contemporary art is made in Canada makes us a civilized country, a cultured nation."

A cultured nation—and one that has seized imaginations across the Atlantic. "Our films can be distinctly Canadian," says Haynes, "and also say something significant to Europeans." ♣

Read about Foreign Affairs Canada's Arts and Cultural Industries programming at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/arts.

Margaret Atwood

Canada World View • Issue 22 • Summer 2004

photo: courtesy of Cirque Éloize

Cirque Éloize's *Nomade*

photo: Nigel Dickson

OLD FRIENDS AND NEW BORDERS



Guy Gendron in Paris: "Canada is seen here as something better than an ally—a brother."

Guy Gendron is the European correspondent for Radio-Canada's "Le Téléjournal." Gendron, 47, has been a television reporter since 1979, with postings in Sherbrooke, QC, Regina, Toronto, Ottawa, Washington, D.C. and, since 2001, in Paris. As the European Union undergoes its historic expansion, *Canada World View* asked Gendron for his observations about the future of Canada's relationship with Europe.

It's something I wasn't expecting when I arrived in Paris three years ago. I had known, of course, about the historic ties linking France and Canada—Quebec in particular—but I had not realized just how much they had become forward-looking bonds of friendship.

My last interview reminded me of this again. It was with a woman born during World War II to unknown parents, one of the 200,000 supposed "Children of the Boches" or children of German occupiers that France had ignored—for the luckiest of them—and most often despised. "It's really because you're from Canada that I accepted the interview," she told me, before adding "because in your country, you are still compassionate."

Obviously, no country has a monopoly on "compassion," but how many times when travelling across Europe have I encountered this same "prejudice" that plays in our favour? Lacking a colonial past and ambitions of domination, with a history of selfless solidarity illustrated by its participation in the two major wars of the last century, Canada is seen here as something better than an ally—a brother.

As Europe pushes its borders toward the East with its enlargement from 15

to 25 member countries, what does this represent for Canada? First—and this is cause for celebration—it is the result of what so many of our soldiers sacrificed their lives for. Canada's Ambassador to the EU, Jeremy Kinsman, is in a good position to talk about this. He began his diplomatic career in 1968 in Brussels. He remembers that era's builders of the European dream, whom he rubbed shoulders with every day, people who were 40 or 50 years old, witnesses to or actors in the horrors of the war that had torn their continent apart. They had vowed, as had others, "never again."

"They succeeded," Mr. Kinsman told me in an admiring tone a few days before the 10 new members joined the Union. "People say that with enlargement comes the end of the Cold War. That's true. But above all, it's the end of the wars of the 20th century in Europe."

One can readily suppose that it will take a number of years before the large European family learns to operate with 25 members. Not to mention that there is already talk of lengthening the list, pushing still farther to the East. Isn't Europe risking isolation by becoming preoccupied with managing the internal

tensions that will surely crop up? Undoubtedly so, especially since, with its 20 official languages, the EU will have a hard time speaking with a single voice!

And from a trade perspective, in creating a bloc of 450 million inhabitants, isn't Europe running the risk of withdrawing into itself to better manage the economic integration of its new members, which are on average twice as poor? Perhaps, but Canada would be mistaken if it didn't also see this opportunity. Think of what Italy, Spain or Ireland was like before they joined the Union. Those who believed in them at the time and invested in them are today reaping the rewards of prosperity.

Does the future hold the same fate for Lithuania and Poland? There are no guarantees, of course. But the opportunity is there and our friendships in "old Europe" may open many doors, especially as we benefit from that favourable prejudice that continues to be applied to us.

Former prime minister Jean Chrétien often liked to say when promoting Canada abroad that "we are North Americans but we are not Americans." And in Europe, particularly these days, that's a considerable asset. ♣

THE NEW TRADE WINDS

Canadian and European firms moving into each other's territory are gaining market access and creating synergies.

When their German employer set up a plant in London, Ontario, in 2001, Jochen Bohlander and Stefanie Weeber were offered a chance to expand their horizons. The company, Keiper Ltd., sent the couple to check out the new location one frosty week in December to make sure they would commit to the minimum of three years away from home. "It was cold and grey, and we weren't too impressed," recalls Bohlander. Nevertheless, they made the leap. Two years later, like Keiper itself, the two haven't looked back.

A contract to provide seat structures for DaimlerChrysler's North American models brought Keiper to London. When it is fully operational early next year, the company expects to employ 375 people, almost all Canadian, and will generate millions of dollars of work for Canadian suppliers. With a foothold in North America, it can pursue contracts on this side of the Atlantic more efficiently.

"We found a lot of suppliers, good infrastructure and well-educated people in London," says Uwe Schorpp, General Manager and Vice-President of Operations for Keiper. "There is a great base to support us."

Keiper is one of about 650 German firms with operations in Canada. While these companies bring some German staff with them, they employ more than 100,000 Canadians in about 1,500 locations across the country, from field offices and production sites to research and development centres. Many, such as communications giant Siemens, have been in Canada a long time. However, some 200 have

opened their doors in the last decade, part of a growing trend toward European companies setting up and selling within rather than simply exporting products to Canada.

Rick McElrea, Director of Investment Programs for International Trade Canada, says that Keiper exemplifies why many companies come to Canada: to pursue linkages with key clientele or to build on an existing export base. McElrea's job is to encourage investors in Canada to expand their operations and to attract new firms to the country. "We don't sell Canada as a cheap location, but rather as an ideal location to take advantage of the North American Free Trade Agreement and to set up a business."

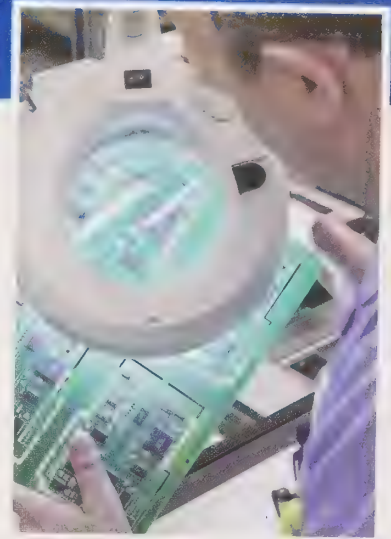
Detlef Engler, Senior Investment Officer at Canada's embassy in Berlin, points out that the trend toward foreign direct investment flows both ways across the Atlantic, creating synergies that transcend borders and sectors. "European companies are successfully competing against North American companies in their own backyard, and vice versa," he says.

While Canadian firms export some \$19 billion worth of goods to the European Union annually, sales in Europe by Canadian-owned affiliates are four or five times greater. Through its plants in Quebec and Germany, for example, Canadian aluminum giant Alcan Inc. supplies most of the metal required by European automakers BMW and Audi. The expansion of the EU from 15 to 25 countries creates an even bigger marketplace. Indeed, Canadian auto parts firm Linamar Corp. has already established five

plants in Hungary, one of the new EU members.

Meanwhile, back in London, the move to Canada has been nothing but positive for Jochen Bohlander and Stefanie Weeber. They've bought a house and hope to extend their stay here. 🍁

To read the latest news on investment and trade with Europe, see the July 2 and July 15 issues of *CanadExport*, International Trade Canada's biweekly investment and trade publication. See the issues and search the *CanadExport* archives for more Europe trade news at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadexport.



Cross-Atlantic investment: European companies come to Canada to pursue linkages with key clientele or to build on an existing export base.

Enhancing Trade and Investment

To build on their close relationship, Canada and the EU have agreed to a framework for a modern Trade and Investment Enhancement Agreement (TIEA), an ambitious and forward-looking initiative that responds not just to current issues but also anticipates future challenges and creates opportunities to broaden and deepen trade and investment.

The TIEA, in combination with the results of the WTO's Doha Round of multilateral negotiations, will offer concrete results to Canadian and European business communities as well as consumers. Negotiations on the TIEA will begin later this year.

For more information on the TIEA and an update on negotiations, see www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/EU-en.asp.

PROTECTING PEOPLE AND BORDERS

Security challenges from human trafficking to international terrorism are drawing Canada and Europe closer together.

It is a fine balance being struck by authorities on both sides of the Atlantic: how to increase security measures to combat terrorism and organized crime, while upholding and promoting human rights and civil liberties.

With their discussion particularly poignant in the wake of the Madrid

bombings, Canada and the European Union pledged at the recent summit in Ottawa to cooperate more closely in areas related to international security, from promoting global governance and

cross borders, while facilitating the movement of legitimate people and goods," says Peter Bates, Deputy Director of the International Crime and Terrorism Division for Foreign Affairs Canada.

Authorities are collaborating in particular on efforts to stop both human smuggling, where people are illegally brought into countries in exchange for payment, and international human trafficking, where people are deceived to move, legally or not, to countries where they will be subjected to various forms of sexual exploitation or forced labour.

Canada, through organizations like the RCMP, works with domestic and international partners to stop this illegal human flow by gathering and sharing information and developing intelligence to detect, prevent and investigate offences.

"Human trafficking is recognized as a growing global crime," says Superintendent John Ferguson, Director of the RCMP's Immigration and Passport Branch, which is involved in border security and the fight against organized criminals involved in the smuggling and trafficking of people into Canada. "It has a tremendous human element. We are talking about people who are physically intimidated or assaulted or threatened. We must protect them against further victimization."

Because human smuggling and trafficking involve secreting people across borders, the fight against these activities goes hand in hand with the fight against terrorism, Ferguson explains.

"The illegal migration of people around the world poses an opportunity for tremendous profits for organized crime and creates a great risk for every country affected," he says. "Those who may be looking at it from a terrorist point of view can use these routes to illegally enter other countries undetected... We have to shut down those routes."

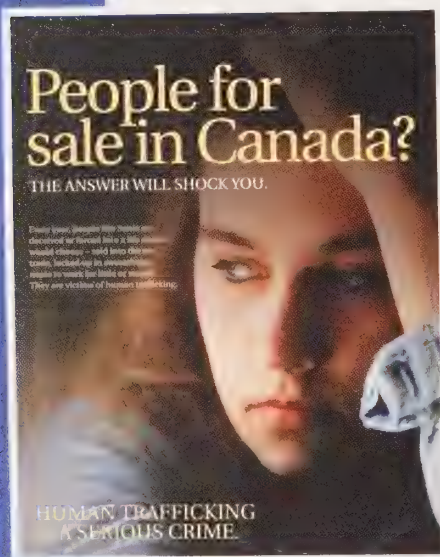
Canada is involved in a number of domestic and international agreements and protocols and has undertaken initiatives such as information campaigns in countries where human trafficking victims come from, including a striking advertisement noting that there are "people for sale" in Canada.

The Canada-EU Partnership Agenda sets out a number of areas of closer cooperation on security between forces on both sides of the Atlantic, including improving the exchange of strategic, tactical, technical and operational information with a view to combating illegal and irregular migration.

"Crime thrives between jurisdictions," says Peter Bates. "International terrorism, human smuggling and many other forms of transnational crime are global in scope and they require global solutions." 🍁

For more information about security and related issues addressed in the Canada-EU Partnership Agenda, see www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/EU/partnership_agenda-en.asp.

To read about what the RCMP is doing to safeguard security, go to www.rcmp.gc.ca.



combatting terrorism to collaborating on issues of justice and home affairs.

Security forces in Canada and Europe are grappling with how best to stop human trafficking and other illegal movements of people, while promoting and encouraging the legitimate movement of people between countries.

"We have to make it difficult for people and goods to illegally

SHARED SCIENCE

Researchers in Canada and Europe are collaborating on leading-edge science.

Some 50,000 Canadians suffer every year from stroke, a crippling affliction triggered by the rupture of blood vessels or the reduction of blood circulation in the brain. Now scientists in Canada and Germany are working together to better understand why.

Through an international partnership between Canada's National Research Council (NRC) and Berlin's Institute for Molecular Pharmacology, a team of researchers is looking for new ways to prevent and manage the damage caused by strokes.

Dr. Danica Stanimirovic, a neurologist at the NRC Institute of Biological Sciences, says that the scientists are combining their expertise in proteomics and genomics, technologies used to follow changes in genes in a diseased state, in order to establish the properties of brain blood vessels in strokes. Their findings could be used to avert strokes or to apply therapies that allow blood vessels affected by strokes to start functioning again.

"Together we can create a more complete picture of the dynamic changes in the brain," she explains. "It's an exchange of technological capabilities and very specific expertise, so it's a nice marriage."

David Stevenson, senior advisor in NRC's International Relations Office, says that Dr. Stanimirovic's research is an example of the explosion of teamwork between leading scientists in Canada and Europe. These partnerships strengthen research on both sides of the Atlantic, avoiding dupli-

cation while combining expertise, knowledge and equipment.

"When you bring people together, there's a doubling or tripling or even quadrupling of your investment and your results and a shortening of timeframes," he says. "It furthers scientific knowledge and speeds up the commercialization process. And of course, good scientific relations often lead to enhanced business opportunities for Canadian companies."

The NRC has negotiated five research agreements with the U.K., France, Germany, Spain and the Czech Republic, encompassing 42 jointly financed research projects. They include collaboration with scientists in France on a new generation of semiconductor materials and work with researchers in Spain on bioinformatics, the merging of computer sciences and biotechnology.

The Partnership Agenda agreed to at the Canada-EU Summit in Ottawa last March cited the importance of raising awareness of collaborative opportunities and of creating new science and technology partnerships.

Through International Trade Canada (ITCan), Canada has struck four science and technology agreements with France, Germany, Japan, and the EU. Since 1996, Canada has had an agreement with the EU that encourages teamwork between Canadian and European scientists for multi-year, multinational research projects.

Key areas of study between Canada and Europe include biotechnology, specifically health and genomics applications such as the area where Dr. Stanimirovic works; information technologies; intelligent materials and new production processes; aeronautics

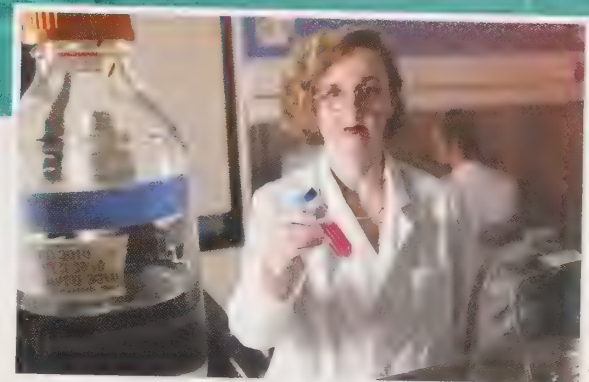


photo: Tom Deveser/NRC

and space; food safety and health risks; and sustainable development.

The program at ITCan strengthens Canada's science and technology capacity, helping collaborators in universities, research institutes and science-related government departments and agencies reach the point where they can commercialize their work. Science and technology counsellors at a number of Canadian missions in Europe learn about science projects in their host countries and promote research partnerships with Canada.

"We have to get the message across that Canada is not just a resource-based economy," says Walter Davidson, a nuclear physicist and administrator at NRC, who recognized the value of cross-Atlantic collaboration as a Science and Technology Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Germany in the 1990s. "The bottom line for me was to present Canada as an advanced science and technology-based nation with whom one could have cooperation and partnerships." ♣

For more information on the National Research Council, see www.nrc.gc.ca.

Visit www.infoexport.gc.ca/science to learn about International Trade Canada's Science and Technology Division.

Neurologist Danica Stanimirovic: Exchanges of expertise and technological capabilities "can create a more complete picture of the dynamic changes in the brain."

WAR AND REMEMBRANCE

The sacrifice and celebration of last century's definitive conflicts continue to reverberate in Canada's close relations with Europe today.

Aboard the ships headed for the Normandy coast that night, rough waters and anticipation of a beach landing under heavy artillery fire churned stomachs and minds.

No soldier among the 15,000 troops in the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division could miss the enormity of the hour. They belonged to the largest amphibious invasion in military history, with more than 5,000 vessels approaching the dawn of D-Day to reclaim Europe from Nazi Germany.

"You felt you could almost jump from one ship to another, they were so close," recounts Bruce Evans, 81, a farm boy from Woodbridge, Ontario, and an artillery

specialist with the 1st Hussars Armoured Regiment at the start of the campaign on June 6, 1944, known as "Operation Overlord."

Evans, who to this day carries shrapnel in his shoulder from a German mortar blast that morning on Juno Beach, recovered in time to join subsequent European battles where Canada played an instrumental role, especially in the Netherlands.

It's been a longer healing process for Phil Neis, 82. Among the first wave to hit the beach, he for many years could not speak even to his children about the carnage that took the lives of 359 Canadians that day, including a number of Winnipeg Rifles for whom his unit had provided artillery support, who were captured and summarily executed.

"It's something that you didn't want to remember, although you couldn't get it out of your mind," says Neis, a 12th Field Regiment veteran from Fort Saskatchewan outside of Edmonton. At the urging of his family, he returned to Normandy in 2000, "something I should have done years before."

Sacrifice and celebration, personal loss and national victory are the opposing yet fused themes attending the conclusion of last century's definitive conflict, one that continues to reverberate in Canada's close relations with Europe today.

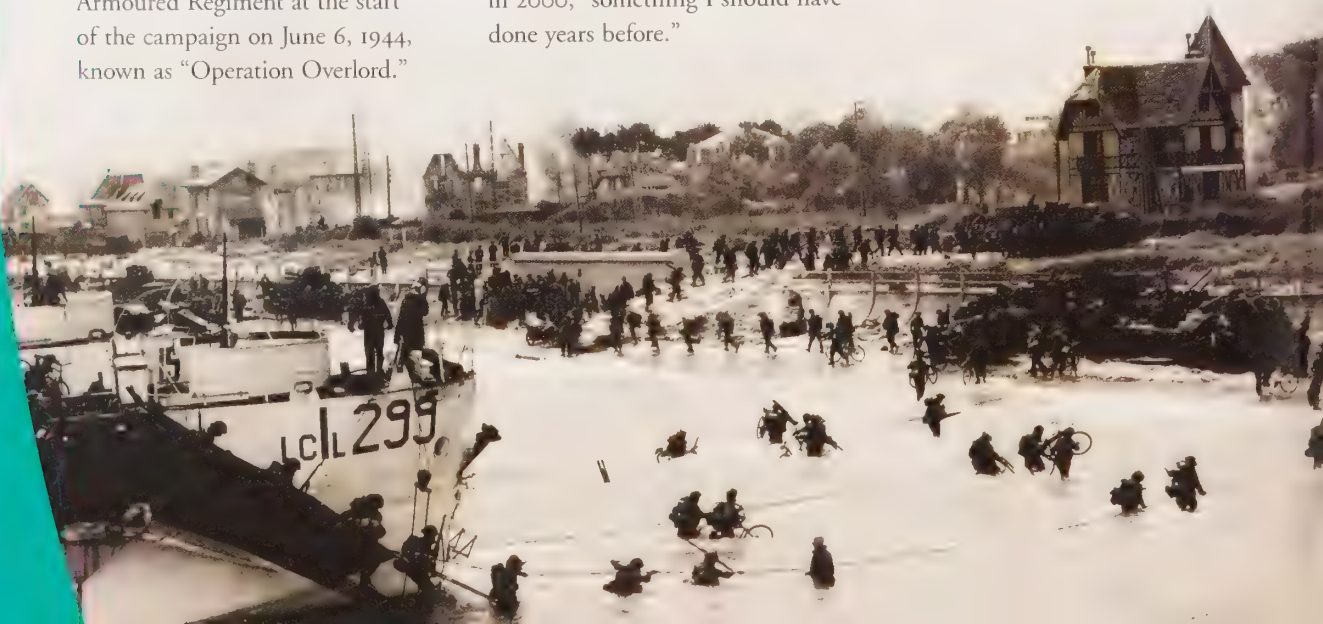
The 60th anniversary of the D-Day landings and the Battle of Normandy, marked by major commemorations in France, Canada and around the world, will be followed by ceremonies noting such Second World War milestones as the Italian campaign and the liberation of the Netherlands.

Many among the one million enlisted Canadians played critical roles in all of these events. A deeply ingrained sense of gratitude thus still colours how Canada is seen in France, Belgium, Britain and particularly the

D-Day landing: No soldier could miss the enormity of the hour.



Corporal Bruce Evans in December 1944, at age 21.



YOUTH ON THE MOVE

Exchange programs between Canada and Europe are a hot ticket for young people.

As a teenager growing up in Great Village, Nova Scotia, Bryson Johnson sketched out a “mental map” of his life’s ambitions: get to a Toronto Maple Leafs home game, travel a little in North America and enter politics.

But in 2000, Johnson’s plans took an unexpected turn, when, at 26, he signed up for a year-long Canada-Sweden youth exchange program. Four years later, with a ringside view of the historic European Union enlargement, he teaches at an elementary school in Stockholm.

Johnson marvels at how the experience of living and working across the Atlantic has opened his eyes to the world—and deepened his appreciation of Canada.

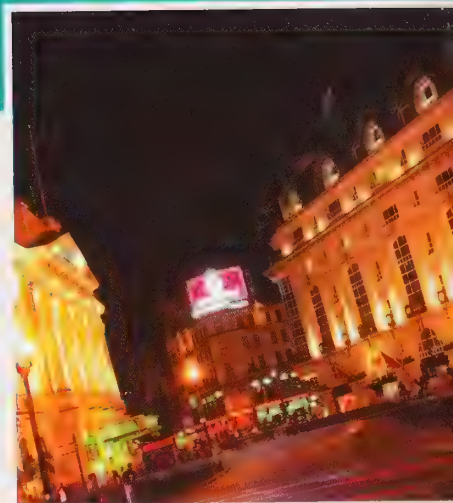
“I would love to go back and talk to the guy that I was at 17, and let him know there is so much out there to see,” he says. “It’s an exciting time to be in Europe.”

Indeed, Europe is a well-kept secret that Canada wants to share with 18- to 35-year-olds.

“Back in the 1970s, it was a rite of passage to stick a knapsack on your back for a couple of months and go over to Europe,” says Abbie Dann, Director of European Business Development and Connectivity Initiatives at Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC). However, costs have more recently dimmed the youthful dream of a summer in Europe, she adds. “In terms of the development of future leaders and enlightened citizens, it is just not a good thing... We need to be a country that’s out there seeing the world.”

That’s why the approximately 270 international youth exchange programs offered by governments and non-profit groups across Canada are suddenly a hot ticket.

In 2003, through some 55 programs offered by FAC, more than 16,000 Canadian and European youth between 18 and 30 years of age signed up to work and travel in each other’s countries. There are plans to further expand the programs in the next year



Lights of London: Out there seeing the world.

to 18,000 youth through new arrangements with France, Ireland, Norway and more countries expected to join.

Many of the programs are designed to be accessible and affordable. For example, 120 students from Canada and Europe take part every year in a simulation of the European Parliament, with students acting as “members” to debate a topic. Students pay only the cost of getting there.

Hugo Sierra, a Master’s student in international business at Montreal’s École des Hautes Études Commerciales, says the \$1,500 he spent to attend debates in Barcelona and Krakow paid back unexpected dividends.

“You have to go away and be confronted with situations that require you to develop an appreciation for the cultural and political life,” says Sierra, who had to work across time zones and language barriers to help organize parliamentary debates. “When you appreciate what you have in common with other countries, you discover it is more important than the differences,” he adds.

The people-to-people contacts, further enhanced by ease of communication via the Internet, offer a new form of diplomacy for Canada, Dann says. “The more young citizens

Exchanging Facts

Canada and Europe are eager to expand contacts among youth, using bilateral agreements and improved choices to facilitate opportunities for young people to travel, work and live abroad.

Canada currently supports youth exchange programs with eight EU member countries (with more planned) under four options:

- Working Holiday Program—young people work for a short stint to offset travel expenses;
- Student Work Abroad Program—Canadian university and college students work and travel in a European country;
- Young Workers Exchange Program—young professionals gain experience through overseas training; and
- Co-op Education Program—post-secondary students gain work experience in Europe in their field of study.



Alison Clement's internship with the Canadian Red Cross on landmine issues taught her about international issues and left her with "marketable skills that will last a lifetime."

photo: (l) Fred Chastand



photo: courtesy of Ianis von Schellwitz and Tim Blokland

Link to the current issue of Canada World View on-line at www.dfa-ndc.gc.ca/canada-magazine/news-en.asp for new features for youth and to search the International Events Calendar for up-to-the-minute events.

Rite of passage: Travel opens young eyes "to the possibilities out there."

abilities in fundraising, recruitment and public speaking. "These are marketable skills that will last a lifetime," says Clement, who now works with Canadian Heritage in Ottawa.

As for Bryson Johnson, who did finally get to a Maple Leafs game, his "mental map" still includes returning home—and a career in politics, with a newfound appreciation for Canada's links with the EU. "It's important to have strong ties with the United States," he says, "but it's a good time for Canada to be involved in Europe." 🍁

For more information about youth exchange programs offered by Foreign Affairs Canada, visit www.youthonthemove.gc.ca.

For global international youth programs, go to www.canada123go.ca.

In Brief: The New EU Countries

CYPRUS

Total Area: 9,250 km²

Capital: Nicosia

Population: 854,800

Cyprus and Canada: Canada was a major contributor to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus from 1964 to 1993.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Total Area: 78,866 km²

Capital: Prague

Population: 10.2 million

Czech Republic and Canada: Canada accepted almost 12,000 former refugees who fled after the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

ESTONIA

Total Area: 45,226 km²

Capital: Tallinn

Population: 1.4 million

Estonia and Canada: The second-largest Estonian diaspora in the world is in Canada, with 22,000 people.

HUNGARY

Total Area: 93,030 km²

Capital: Budapest

Population: 10 million

Hungary and Canada: Hungary has been the largest recipient of Canadian investment in central Europe since 1990, amounting to \$1 billion. Two-way trade in 2003 was \$293 million.

LATVIA

Total Area: 64,589 km²

Capital: Riga

Population: 2.4 million

Latvia and Canada: The President of Latvia, Vaira Vike-Freiberga, is a former Canadian who lived in Canada for 44 years after fleeing her homeland during the Second World War.

LITHUANIA

Total Area: 65,200 km²

Capital: Vilnius

Population: 3.5 million

Lithuania and Canada: Canadian investment in Lithuania is \$30 million, largely concentrated in the wood-processing and manufacturing sector.

MALTA

Total Area: 316 km²

Capital: Valletta

Population: 397,499

Malta and Canada: Canadian fighter pilot ace George "Buzz" Beurling scored most of his victories while stationed with the RAF 249 Squadron in Malta during the Second World War.

POLAND

Total Area: 312,685 km²

Capital: Warsaw

Population: 38.6 million

Poland and Canada: More than 800,000 Canadians claim Polish ancestry, making the Polish community the 11th-largest ethnic group in Canada.

SLOVAKIA

Total Area: 48,485 km²

Capital: Bratislava

Population: 5.4 million

Slovakia and Canada: Canadian companies, including Bombardier, Onex Corp., Belmont Resources and McCain Foods, have made considerable investments in Slovakia in sectors such as energy, manufacturing and agriculture.

SLOVENIA

Total Area: 20,253 km²

Capital: Ljubljana

Population: 1.9 million

Slovenia and Canada: Slovenia is an important partner with Canada in the Human Security Network and in the elimination of landmines globally.

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Remembering Mitchell Sharp

Born May 11, 1911. Died March 19, 2004.

Civil servant, businessman, politician, internationalist, adviser, patron of the arts. Member of Parliament from 1963 to 1978. Minister of Trade and Commerce. Minister of Finance. Secretary of State for External Affairs. President of the Privy Council.

I was able to deal with foreign affairs with greater understanding and better judgment as a result of visiting many countries and areas of the world and meeting their leaders. All these encounters were interesting, at least to me, and they provided insights into motivations that can only be obtained through personal encounters. The very fact that national political leaders meet more frequently does modify their approach and their behaviour—it modified mine—particularly when they appear together on TV screens observed by an increasing proportion of the world's population. Slowly but surely, I believe, the human race is learning, through modern communications, that it has common goals and common problems that for their attainment or solution require cooperation and often joint action by national governments.

—Excerpted from *Which Reminds Me: A Memoir*, by Mitchell Sharp, University of Toronto Press, 1994.

photo: CP (Russell Mant)



▲ Elder statesman:
Mitchell Sharp

◀ Secretary of State
for External Affairs
Mitchell Sharp and
Chinese Ambassador
Huang Hua share a
laugh in the minister's
office in Ottawa in
July 1971.

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Aboriginal Planet

First Peoples
go global



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Our cover

Main: The Beaver and the Mink, a contemporary sculpture by British Columbia Aboriginal artist Susan Point. Donated by the Government of Canada, it stands in the entrance rotunda of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. photo: Walter Larsson/NMAI

Top inset: Jordin Tootoo, pictured at the 2003 World Junior Championships, is the first Inuk athlete to be drafted into the National Hockey League. photo: Jeff Yarnick/www.HockeyCanada.ca

Middle inset: Angela De Montigny's designs draw upon her Six Nations heritage and sell briskly abroad. photo: Louise C. Farrell

Bottom inset: Eric Pothier of the Dakota Tipi First Nation near Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, won a 2003 Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Award. photo: CP (Robert Dill)

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Cassidy Formenti, age 5, takes a close look at Major Sumner, a dancer from the Coorong area of south Australia, performing in Edmonton last summer in a celebration of Aboriginal awareness in support of the United Way.

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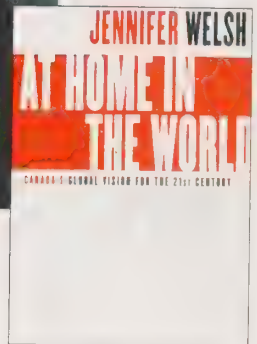
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CANADA AS MODEL CITIZEN

Jennifer Welsh is the author of *At Home in the World*, a new book that offers a vision of Canada's role on the global stage. Welsh, a former Cadieux Research Fellow in Foreign Affairs Canada's Policy Planning Bureau, holds master's and doctorate degrees in international relations from the University of Oxford and has written three books on international relations.



photo: Robert Thompson/FA



At Home in the World: Canada's Global Vision for the 21st Century by Jennifer Welsh (Toronto: HarperCollins, 2004)

In order for Canada to play a new part on the global stage in the 21st century, we need to shed some of the traditional myths that have dominated our international identity for the past half-century. We should conceive of Canada not in traditional terms, as a middle power, but as a citizen in the world of nation-states. In fact, I believe Canada has the potential to be a model citizen for the 21st century.

Both words—"model" and "citizen"—are crucial to my vision. First, the notion of a model suggests a different approach to effecting change. A crucial aspect of Canadian foreign policy today is simply *being what we are*: a particular, and highly successful, model of liberal democracy.

Our model privileges pluralism, as reflected in our federal structure, our official policy of bilingualism and our immigration and refugee policy. It prizes mixed government, by balancing legislative decision making with an activist court and a robust human rights culture. Our model makes risk a collective problem for society, by establishing a set of state-funded benefits that Canadians can draw upon in their time of need. It seeks a balance between providing greater security for citizens in a world of terrorism and other transnational threats, and respecting hard-won civil and political liberties. The Canadian model is also extremely civil, as seen in our crime levels, the vitality of our cities and the success of our artists. Most of all, our model of democracy is internationalist, in embracing free trade and multilateral cooperation, but is also confident in its ability to sustain a unique national identity. All of these aspects of the Canadian model are exceedingly attractive. And what is attractive creates a

magnetic effect. It induces others to emulate what we do, to forge better and closer relationships with us.

But Canada can model in another sense. It can demonstrate how to establish the foundations of a strong society—much as a teacher or consultant might do. Rather than transplanting our model into other countries, our foreign policy can seek to help others help themselves. To contribute to regime building, rather than imposing regime change. In this task, Canada is ultimately a collaborator or partner, rather than an imperial occupier. To put it another way, we become a model rather than the model.

The idea of Canada as model citizen offers an alternative to our long-standing self-image as a middle power. In my view, this alternative is a welcome one. We no longer live in an international system where great powers are pitted against one another, and smaller powers like Canada work skilfully to find a path through the middle. Instead, we live in a world with a single hegemon that, on the one hand, requires fewer friends to get the job done, but on the other hand, is demanding stronger demonstrations of allegiance. These changes have made the tactics of middle-powermanship much more difficult to apply.

Middle power identity is also uninspiring for our younger generations. The formative experiences of young Canadians—particularly their exposure to global media

"We should conceive of Canada not in traditional terms, as a middle power, but as a citizen in the world of nation-states. In fact, I believe Canada has the potential to be a model citizen for the 21st century."

and the borderless World Wide Web—have made them inherently internationalist. Now they passionately believe that they will do great things in the world. To be a middle power is to settle for mediocrity.

Model citizenship is not a recipe for multiplying Canada's commitments and activities on the global stage. In order to realize my vision, Canada must think more strategically about its role internationally. And a strategy requires choice. Not being all things to all people. Not trying to steal a newspaper headline on every international issue. But choosing those areas where we want to make a contribution and where we are willing to apply our resources (human as well as financial) to make a difference. It entails encouraging countries to meet the UN's Millennium Goals on development and poverty reduction; acting as a watchdog for human rights, particularly in the context of the "war on terror"; and reforming the institutions of global governance.

However, the government's formal agenda is not enough. I'd like to encourage us to conceive of our country not just as Canada with a capital C—the corporate entity represented by the flag or government officials—but also

as *Canadians*. Foreign policy is not something others do, "out there." Many of us, in our own way, are already contributing to it. Even if global citizenship continues to face significant limits, we as individuals can and should build upon the Canadian legacy for global engagement and take it one step further. While Canada is our home, the world is where we belong. ♣

Hear a "netcast" of Jennifer Welsh's background and views on the model citizen concept and multilateral institutions on the Canadian International Policy Web site. The site, managed by the Strategic Policy Branch of Foreign Affairs Canada, provides information, views, and analysis of key issues that touch on Canada's role in the international community. It describes the foundations of Canada's international policy and provides insights into new policy thinking. Visit www.international.gc.ca/cip-pic.

A NEW MINISTER

Pierre Pettigrew says he is looking forward to an "enormously rewarding, yet challenging portfolio" as Canada's new Minister of Foreign Affairs.

"My overriding priority, a key one for the Government of Canada, is to develop an integrated international policy framework" through the mechanism of the International Policy Review that is to be tabled in Parliament later this fall, he says. "Now, more than ever, the world needs more of the qualities that Canada and Canadians possess in such abundance."

Mr. Pettigrew first joined the Cabinet in January 1996 as Minister for International Co-operation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie. From 1996 to 1999, he served as Minister of Human Resources Development and from 1999 to 2003 as Minister for International Trade. From December 2003 until his appointment to the Foreign Affairs post in July,

he was Minister of Health, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister responsible for Official Languages.



Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew

A former consultant to companies with dealings in international markets, Mr. Pettigrew served as Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister from 1981 to 1984 and as Director of the Political Committee to the NATO Assembly in Brussels from 1976 to 1978. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières and a Masters of Philosophy degree in International Relations from Balliol College, Oxford University, United Kingdom. ♣

For more information about the ministers involved in Foreign Affairs

Canada and International Trade Canada, visit www.international.gc.ca.

ABORIGINAL PLANET

At the close of the United Nations International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, Aboriginal people have made advances in Canada and abroad, but there is still much to do.

Poised on a cliff in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains overlooking Canada's windswept western plains, tourists can be forgiven for losing their sense of time and place. At Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in southern Alberta, they can imagine the sights and sounds of the distant past, when vast herds of buffalo wandered the Prairies, providing food and clothing to the Blackfoot people who hunted them each autumn by skillfully steering them over the precipice to be butchered below.

It's a scene that continued for 6,000 years but came to an abrupt end in the late 19th century when European settlers arrived, bringing new diseases, almost eliminating the buffalo and erasing forever a way of life.

Today, with Aboriginal people serving as guides, the ancient site testifies to a rich and complex culture that existed for thousands of years in harmony with the land and water. Paying tribute to an irretrievable past, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump shares with visitors from around the world deeply held Aboriginal values and traditions inextricably woven into the fabric of Canada. It also serves as a reminder that those who came to North America could not have survived without the aid of the Aboriginal people, who helped them conquer the challenges of climate and geography.

The site is also a poignant symbol of the shared history, complex relationships, values, goals and aspirations of the First Peoples in Canada and around the world and those who came after them.

Home and native land

Accounting for about 1.4 million of the country's 31 million people, there are three Indigenous groups in Canada: the Inuit who are predominantly resident in the North; about 630 First Nations, the largest group; and the Métis, people of mixed First Nation and European ancestry. Referred to



collectively as Aboriginal people, each has its own unique heritage, culture, language, traditions and beliefs. Among First Nations alone, there are more than 50 languages. The name "Canada" itself is derived from a word in the language of the Huron Nation meaning "village" or "settlement."

Although constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and treaty rights exists in Canada, Aboriginal people, like Indigenous cultures in other countries, have faced many hardships.

As the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People comes to an end in December, they can look back on 10 years of both progress and challenges.

Among the first major steps forward in Canada was the Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (1996), which made several recommendations, including the need for Aboriginal people to develop self-government. In response, the Government of Canada issued *Gathering Strength—Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan*, a blueprint for renewing the partnership with Aboriginal people, strengthening governance and supporting strong communities, people and economies.

The repatriation of important cultural objects such as ancestral remains from public and private collections has

Woven into the fabric of Canada: Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump pays tribute to an irretrievable past and shares with visitors some deeply held Aboriginal values and traditions.

Accounting for about 1.4 million of the country's 31 million people, there are three Indigenous groups in Canada: the Inuit; about 630 First Nations; and the Métis. Referred to collectively as Aboriginal people, each has its own unique heritage, culture, language, traditions and beliefs.

encouraged greater respect for First Nations concepts of property and the appropriate treatment of cultural heritage.

There have been advances in the settlement of Aboriginal land claims and in the establishment of self-government, as well as ground-breaking resource-sharing agreements. However, for many First Nations, progress in self-government and land claims has been frustratingly slow. And there continues to be a wide disparity between the quality of life of many Aboriginal people and that of other Canadians.

Aboriginal policy and programs in Canada continue to move forward to address these issues. Prime Minister Paul Martin and the Government of Canada have declared as a major priority the significant improvement in quality

of life for Aboriginal people. A national roundtable on Aboriginal affairs in Canada in the spring represented an unprecedented opportunity for more than 40 members of the federal Cabinet, Senate and House of Commons to engage 70 Aboriginal leaders from across the country and forge a new relationship. Following the roundtable, the Prime Minister called for a series of steps, including the release of a summary report to serve as a blueprint for action, a series of follow-up roundtable sessions and the production of an Aboriginal report card to ensure quantifiable results.

The international agenda

In keeping with its long-standing support of the UN and its concerns about Aboriginal people, the Government of Canada has backed the goal for the Decade, "to strengthen international cooperation to solve the problems faced by Indigenous people" in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health.

Canada has led or supported a number of national and international projects and initiatives related to the Decade. In 2002, for example, representatives of about 20 Canadian Aboriginal organizations and non-governmental organizations took part in the inaugural meeting of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, one of the Decade's prime objectives. Canada is one of only two countries with two of its nationals, Wayne Lord and



New relationship: Prime Minister Paul Martin takes part in an Aboriginal smudging ceremony before the start of the First Ministers Conference on Health in Ottawa.

Shared history:
Aboriginal teepees
set up for a special
exhibition at the
Canadian Museum
of Civilization across
from Parliament Hill
in Ottawa.

Wilton Littlechild, on the 16-member panel. The Forum's mandate is to provide expert advice to the UN related to economic and social development, culture, human rights, the environment, education and the health of Indigenous people.

Canada has especially played an active role in UN efforts to arrive at a Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. With the support of Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC), Aboriginal organizations from Canada have been involved in the preparation of a draft document.

Phil Fontaine, National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, an organization representing First Nation communities across Canada, says the UN Decade has helped heighten awareness of the challenges faced by the world's Indigenous people, although he wishes it had accomplished more.

"We are disappointed that the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has not yet been finalized," Fontaine says. "On the other hand, 10 years ago the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues did not even exist. So, even though much work remains to be done, we have made important progress."

Global collaboration

Canada's international efforts with regard to Indigenous people are far-reaching. For example, Canada has sent delegations to countries including Chile, Argentina and Brazil to share its experiences in areas such as policing and justice in Aboriginal communities. Jeffrey Marder, Deputy Director of the Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs Division for FAC, says traditional Native methods employed in Canada, like using healing circles as alternatives to incarceration, "are not only effective, they are inexpensive, and they might have application elsewhere."

Other international initiatives include an economic development exchange established by the Ministry of Maori Development in New Zealand and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to promote collaboration between the Maori and the Nisga'a Tribal Council in British Columbia.

Canada is currently working with the Peruvian government through the Pan American Health Organization to develop a solvent-abuse treatment program for Indigenous people modelled on one in Canada.

Canada and Mexico have worked together to develop opportunities for cooperative business relationships for Indigenous people, with numerous contacts and study tours between the two countries on development, education and other issues.



A model in the North

A number of Canadian efforts on Aboriginal issues have been recognized internationally. For example, the establishment five years ago of the Nunavut Territory, which has a population that is 85 percent Inuit and covers one fifth of Canada's land mass, is considered a major step in Aboriginal governance. The negotiations leading to its creation were recognized in the 2004 UN Human Development Report as a lesson in power-sharing.

"Historically, Inuit were in full control of all aspects of their life. But missionaries, then the RCMP, government officials, and the creation of permanent settlements brought about a loss of the traditional, nomadic way of life," says Stephen Hendrie, Communications Director for the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, which represents the 45,000 Inuit in Canada. "The creation of the Nunavut government was a remarkably peaceful process in changing the map of Canada, using democratic instruments to achieve a result pleasing to Inuit and to other Canadians as well."

Given the importance of the North to Canada's identity and to the world as a whole, the Canadian government has set out a vision for this country in the circumpolar world, called the Northern Dimension of Canada's Foreign Policy. Its overarching goals are to enhance the security and prosperity of Canadians and to establish the region surrounding the Arctic Circle as a vibrant geopolitical entity.

Canada is working with other circumpolar countries to address common issues such as human security, economic

Celebrating Aboriginal contributions: Marissa Tacan, a member of the Sioux Valley First Nation, dances on National Aboriginal Day this year in Brandon, Manitoba.

The establishment five years ago of the Nunavut Territory is considered a major step in Aboriginal governance. The negotiations leading to its creation were recognized in the 2004 UN Human Development Report as a lesson in power-sharing.

sustainability and the environment. Particular Canadian priorities are strengthening the Arctic Council, a forum that includes six Indigenous organizations and the eight Arctic states, and establishing a University of the Arctic.

A growing awareness

Aboriginal culture, languages and artistic expression play a central role in Canada's vibrant society—and in putting this country on the map in many areas of endeavour. Aboriginal artists who have garnered acclaim far afield include musicians Robbie Robertson and Susan Aglukark, conductor and composer John Kim Bell, painter Norval Morrisseau and sculptor Susan Point, whose carving *The Beaver and the Mink* has been donated by Canada to the Smithsonian Institution's new National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. (see p. 20).

Among Aboriginal youth, no one can top Jordin Tootoo, the first Inuk athlete to be drafted into the National Hockey League. A member of the league's Nashville Predators, he is the biggest sports star ever to come out of the Canadian North.

A great deal of effort is going toward strengthening the cultures, languages and traditional ways of Aboriginal people with a view to fostering pride, identity and stronger communities. In 1999, for example, the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network became the world's first nationally televised network to offer programming for, by and about Indigenous people. It is currently available to nine million Canadian households.



A great deal of effort is going toward strengthening the cultures, languages and traditional ways of Aboriginal peoples, with a view to fostering pride, identity and stronger communities.

Throughout the UN Decade, Canada has celebrated the International Day of the World's Indigenous People every year on August 9 and National Aboriginal Day on June 21, with themes and activities that promote greater international understanding of Indigenous issues and the contributions made by Aboriginal people to Canadian society. Each spring the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards recognize the career achievements of Aboriginal professionals in a gala show designed to build self-esteem among the Aboriginal community and provide role models for youth. There are also similar regional events, such as the Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards.

Looking forward

One route to improving economic sustainability is tourism, which is proving increasingly attractive as Aboriginal people look for new commercial and job-creation opportunities. There is especially potential for Aboriginal "cultural" tourism, through which Aboriginal people can share various aspects of their customs, traditions and arts as well as their relationship to the land.

"There is significant market demand for cultural tourism, and this can be translated into real business opportunities for Aboriginal people in Canada and Indigenous people around the world," says Barry Parker, the national tourism advisor for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and a member of the Okanagan First Nation.



Star in the North: (left to right) Victor Tootoo and Tara Tootoo of Rankin Inlet, Nunavut, watch their cousin, Jordin Tootoo, warm up before a game with the NHL's Nashville Predators last season.



photo: courtesy of INAC

"At the same time, it is a platform from which people can enhance, sustain, strengthen and protect their cultures," he says, as long as Aboriginal tourism is developed "with dignity and respect for cultures, communities and the environment."

Much is needed for tourism to fully emerge as a sustainable component of the Aboriginal economy. Aboriginal Tourism Canada, a national organization, is working with provincial counterparts, federal, provincial and territorial departments and the balance of the tourism industry, as well as Aboriginal groups, to develop a business plan to ensure growth for the benefit of future generations.

There is much to learn from Canada's Aboriginal history, by taking part in traditional activities, witnessing great art and learning the stories and legends that have been passed down through generations. Perhaps nowhere is this feeling of past and present, of hope and struggle, and of powerful connections with the land more intense than on the cliffs of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump.

There, the winds seem to carry the haunting voices of a civilization that continues to call out today for understanding, support and recognition and speaks of the need to work—both at home and around the world—to fulfill the promise of a better future for those who came before. ♣

Global Connections

Aboriginal people in Canada are increasingly using technology to connect with each other—and the world. There are myriad programs, resources, Web sites and other high-tech tools that provide information, educational resources and trade links for and about Aboriginal people in Canada and abroad.

First Nations students in small or remote communities can connect to a world of learning opportunities through First Nations SchoolNet (www.schoolnet.ca/aboriginal), an Industry Canada program delivered to schools by First Nations organizations. Students can use the Internet to do research and develop computer skills, while schools with high-speed connections can offer additional learning tools such as video conferencing and on-line courses.

"Distance learning helps give people in these small, remote communities the same kind of chances that a person in the city might have," says Randy Johns, manager of the Keewatin Career Development Corporation, which provides the service to schools in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The Aboriginal Canada Portal (www.aboriginal-autochtones.gc.ca), a partnership between the Government of Canada and six national Aboriginal organizations, is a "single window" for on-line resources, contacts, programs and services such as culture, education and health. It includes Aboriginal associations, businesses, bands, community groups and news, as well as nine federal government departments with Aboriginal mandates, provincial governments and organizations, and Indigenous organizations all over the world.

"This is more than technology, it's bringing people together," says portal manager France Beauvais, adding that the Canadian site is being looked at as a model by other countries with Indigenous populations including Brazil, Chile and Mexico. "It would be good to have a global portal where all countries can link together, share ideas and best practices."

International news is especially the focus of Aboriginal Planet (www.international.gc.ca/aboriginalplanet), a monthly on-line publication offered by Foreign Affairs Canada that includes stories on Canadian Aboriginal activities around the world and international Aboriginal events in Canada.

For those in international business, the Virtual Aboriginal Trade Show or VATS (www.vats.ca) is a Web site designed to promote export-ready Aboriginal products and services across Canada and around the world. VATS showcases Aboriginal firms operating in arts and culture, agriculture and agri-food, environment and natural resources and other sectors. Aboriginal businesses in Canada can register on the site, which is offered in a number of languages for international audiences.

ABORIGINAL RENAISSANCE

Aboriginal artists in Canada are showing a renewed cultural confidence that is resonating around the world.

Aboriginal culture has long been known for carvings, prints and traditional garments depicting nature and Native folklore. But now, Aboriginal artists are more likely to be designing leather jackets, cutting CDs, acting in blockbuster productions or arranging avant-garde installation art.

Without losing touch with its history, Aboriginal culture has increasingly become contemporary, international and mainstream, says Gerald McMaster, an artist from the Siksika Nation in south-central Alberta and chief curator of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian, which has just opened in Washington, D.C.

"Indians all across the Americas are achieving a sense of renaissance," McMaster says. "We are taking greater control of our own cultural history and greater authority to speak on our own behalf."

Angela De Montigny, a Six Nations fashion designer whose handbags, jackets, coats and other clothing draw upon her heritage and sell briskly abroad, agrees. "The time is right for a

focused effort for Aboriginal people to get into the international market."

Indeed, with burgeoning interest in Aboriginal art, music, performance, sculpture and culture, there is a sense that a widening contingent of Aboriginal artists and performers in Canada can express themselves on the world stage.

"A lot of talent is starting to come out of Aboriginal communities all across the country," says actor-musician George Leach, a member of the Sta'tl'imx Nation of southern British Columbia, who released his first CD of blues music in 2000 and has just landed a leading role in Steven Spielberg's "Into the West" series of television movies for the TNT Network.

One field where Aboriginal people are finding success is the highly competitive and rarefied niche of high fashion design. Last spring, several Canadian Aboriginal designers, including De Montigny, D'Arcy Moses, Pam Baker and Tammy Beauvais, presented at Toronto Fashion Week, a major international show that brings designers from around the world to launch new collections.

Indigenous artists worldwide are taking a place on the cutting edge. An event called Planet IndigenUs at Toronto's Harbourfront Centre last August featured more than 300 performance, music and visual artists from Aboriginal and Indigenous cultures around the world, drawing more than 150,000 visitors over 10 days. "It was an opportunity



Haute fashion: Angela De Montigny's designs draw upon her First Nations heritage and sell briskly abroad.

to push some thinking about what Indigenous art, identity and culture are," says organizer Denise Bolduc.

Rebecca Belmore, an Aboriginal performance and installation artist in Vancouver, will represent Canada next year at the Venice Biennale, the pinnacle of the international contemporary arts scene.

"I'm working on an exhibit that will be strong and reflect Canadian art and Canadian society as they are in the world today," says Belmore, a member of the Anishinabekwe Nation from Northern Ontario, who is known for work that connects with audiences and provokes thought. One of her exhibits combines video, sound, performance and installation art in a powerful statement about the murders of women from the streets of Vancouver.

"I want to depict everyday life," she says, "to show our society in the present." ♣

Link to Spirit Magazine, Canada's Native arts, culture and current affairs publication, at www.spiritmag.ca.

photo: courtesy of Rebecca Belmore

photo: Lenore C. Farrell

Contemporary statement: Aboriginal performance and installation artist Rebecca Belmore's work *White Thread*.

TRADE WITH A TWIST

Aboriginal women are launching ventures—some in surprising fields—that are as successful beyond Canada's borders as they are at home.

When Ellen Melcosky set out nine years ago to sell preserved wild Pacific salmon, she began with her mother's traditional Esketemc First Nation recipe, then added her own touch. Living in the wine country of British Columbia's Okanagan Valley, she incorporated dry white wine into the brining formula. Steaming the marinated salmon and sealing it in foil pouches gave it a shelf life of up to five years, ideal for the export market.

Financing for her new company, Little Miss Chief, came from family and friends. "No financial institutions would consider a loan for a woman with no financial background," she recalls. CESO Aboriginal Services, a non-profit organization that aids Aboriginal start-ups, helped develop a business plan.

The combination of her unique product and aggressive marketing worked. Within a year, the company was selling salmon across Canada and in the U.S. and Spain, and today more than 15 percent of sales are exports.

In another twist on tradition, Dene Fur Clouds, a company in Fort Providence, Northwest Territories, combines practicality with style and Aboriginal motifs, making mitts, headbands, hats and other women's and men's clothing out of fur from the Arctic, woven into washable wool. The company attracted worldwide attention at Toronto Fashion Week last spring and is aiming at a high-end

market: the après-ski crowd in Canada, the U.S. and Europe, "people who want practical and fashionable items that are traditional, not high-tech," explains President Judy Magrum. "There seems to be an appreciation of the Aboriginal culture and mindset behind our products."

Another Aboriginal woman doing well in fashion circles abroad is Pam Baker of North Vancouver, B.C. Her company, Touch of Culture Legends, exports 40 percent of its sportswear and ready-to-wear fashions, featuring northwest coast motifs and artwork that are unmistakably Aboriginal in inspiration.

Women Aboriginal entrepreneurs in Canada are also exporting products that go far beyond the traditional. SMS Plastics & Custom Molding of Crossfield, Alberta, makes plastic products that include water treatment systems for use in Third World countries, where they are "filling a real need for affordable, clean water," says company president Joanne Penner. Penner has taken exporting to a whole new level by establishing a manufacturing facility in Bangladesh.

In the high-tech world of video and film production, Aboriginal actors Jennifer Podemski and Laura Milliken launched Big Soul Productions in 1999 to produce film, video and television programs. Their *Moccasin Flats*, a dramatic television series starring Aboriginal actors and set



photo: courtesy of Aboriginal Business Canada/Industry Canada

Joanne Penner of Crossfield, Alberta: Exporting products that go far beyond the traditional.

in an Aboriginal ghetto in Regina, is in its second season.

Podemski took the series to the Sundance and Cannes film festivals, where its gritty style and global outlook led to a sale to New Zealand and interest from other countries.

"*Moccasin Flats* is all about Aboriginal life, but suddenly we're finding it appeals to a much broader audience," she says—an important breakthrough for Aboriginal exports. "We, as Aboriginal people, can produce a marketable product without having to sell out." ♦

See Journey to Success, a new guide for Aboriginal women thinking of going into business, at www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/ecd/js/journ_e.html.

Read the latest news on Aboriginal business in the November issue of *CanadExport*, International Trade Canada's biweekly investment and trade publication. See the issue and search the *CanadExport* archives at www.canadexport.gc.ca.

A UNIQUE POSITION. A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE



As an Aboriginal foreign service officer, Deborah Chatsis has had a deep impact at home and abroad.

In order to deliver the commencement address to the high school graduating class on the Ahtahkakoop Reserve in central Saskatchewan last year, Deborah Chatsis had to circle the globe.

Stops along the way included Nairobi, Beijing, Bogota, Miami, Geneva, New York and Ottawa, all places where Chatsis has worked with Canada's Foreign Service during the past 15 years.

Speaking at her niece's graduation, she says, was "somewhat unnerving," especially as the gathering was made up largely of family and friends. However, her message was delivered with steady passion: there is a world of opportunity out there.

Chatsis is testament to that fact. As a child growing up near the reserve in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, her global curiosity was sparked by exploring an old trunk of mementos her parents had collected while her father was stationed in Germany with the Canadian Armed Forces in the late 1950s. In university, she trained

first as an engineer and then became a lawyer. Finally, looking for a way to work abroad, she entered the foreign service, moving quickly to overseas training in Nairobi and her first posting doing visa and consular work in Beijing in 1990.

China was fascinating for both the sense of connection she felt between the peoples of North America and Asia and the flood of consular and immigration issues her office faced in the post-Tiananmen Square period. "I enjoyed the culture and the traveling, meeting people and making friends. It was difficult to leave."

A subsequent year in Bogota, Colombia, managing the immigrant enforcement program for parts of South and Central America featured new challenges, including personal safety concerns for embassy staff and logistical problems with travel in the region that precipitated a move to Miami to do the job for another eight months.

In more recent positions in Ottawa and postings with Canada's missions to the UN in both Geneva and New York, much of Chatsis's work has been focused on international humanitarian and criminal law, disarmament, peace and security, and human rights, particularly in relation to Indigenous peoples, where she is uniquely positioned.

"There are concerns that are common to Indigenous peoples around the

world; I can draw on my own experience to put those into context and to help shape Canadian positions," she says. "Indigenous rights are at a much more advanced level in Canada than they are in many other countries. Nevertheless, there's still much to be done and many ways to improve."

Chatsis played a central role in the drafting and negotiation of the Ottawa Convention banning landmines. In 1998 she received the Award of Excellence from the Treasury Board of Canada as well as the Canadian Foreign Service Officer Award presented by the Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers for her work on it.

Chatsis is now settling into a new role as Deputy Director of the Human Rights, Humanitarian Affairs and International Women's Equality Division of Foreign Affairs Canada in Ottawa.

Her travel and assignments abroad have "made it a challenge to be so far away from family," she says. "When you join the Foreign Service, you're young, you don't really know the impact it will have." She in turn has had an impact, from opening the eyes of the young graduates of Ahtahkakoop Reserve to "playing a little part" to help advance Canada's role in the international dialogue on Indigenous issues. 🍁

Read about the distinguished foreign service career of James Bartleman in a new book called *On Six Continents* (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 2004). Bartleman, a member of the Mnjikaning First Nation, served in the Canadian foreign service for more than 35 years, heading Canada's missions to the European Union, Australia, South Africa, the North Atlantic Council of NATO, Israel, Cyprus and Cuba. He is currently Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and has identified among his priorities the need to encourage Aboriginal young people.

TELLING OUR STORIES

Jim Compton, also known as Sageeway Gheeshick or Rising Day, is an award-winning journalist, director, producer and television host in Winnipeg. Compton, 47, an Ojibway from the Keeseekoowash (Little Sky) First Nation in Saskatchewan, was a long-time reporter and producer for CBC television in Winnipeg, worked as a consultant to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples and for five years was program director of the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network. He is currently a development officer for CHUM Television. He speaks to *Canada World View* about his efforts to maintain and preserve Aboriginal culture and language in Canada and internationally.



photo: courtesy of APFN

Journalist Jim Compton: a vision for Aboriginal people in Canada.

I have just returned from a trip to the Holy Land, as part of a tour that invited broadcasters and producers from Canada to have a first-hand look the media and film industry in Israel during the Jerusalem and Ramallah film festivals. Watching films and meeting producers and directors was the order of the day, but that did not stop our troupe from taking in the many sites of the most holy of holy places.

Just outside of Jerusalem is a long, winding valley that the River Jordan runs through. Our guide explained that this was the inspiration for the 23rd Psalm, "*Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil.*" At the end is the very plateau where Jesus wandered into the desert to seek the visions he preached throughout the countryside.

Standing there reminded me that we have, as Aboriginal people, just come out of the desert ourselves, and we too have a vision for our people in Canada. However, at the close of the UN's Decade of the World's Indigenous People, many of us are still lost in the desert. The average age for our people to live is 48. We have the highest rates of diabetes and heart attack in the country. Our children are dying at ten times the

national average. Most of us live in abject poverty.

A ray of hope has emerged. It came from being recognized as a people in the repatriated Constitution and being added to the *Broadcasting Act*. Following the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, the dream of an all-Aboriginal national network was realized, and in 1999 I became the first Aboriginal program director in the world. Our stories would be told. Our people would tell them. It is a glimmer of hope among the ruins of our communities, a reflection of who we are.

The dream of an all-Aboriginal national network was realized, and in 1999 I became the first Aboriginal program director in the world. Our stories would be told. Our people would tell them. It is a glimmer of hope among the ruins of our communities, a reflection of who we are.

Starting out in journalism writing stories for the university newspaper, I used to have a dream about an Aboriginal man reading the news,

just like the CBC's Knowlton Nash. Well, we have an Aboriginal man reading the news today. We also have an Aboriginal woman. I didn't know that it would be in the context of an Aboriginal network, but there you go. The key is seeing ourselves mirrored back to us on one of the most powerful mediums in the world, which is television, telling our stories and dealing with our issues.

When I've travelled to Israel, to France, to Baghdad, to Las Vegas and the Sundance Film Festival, people are astounded that we have an Aboriginal network in Canada. By being the first, we have inspired others. I was in New Zealand this spring for the launch of the Maori Television Network. The Aborigines are trying hard to launch their own service in Australia and now there's talk of a Native network in the U.S. We are finding ways to work together, to showcase what's happening in different areas of the globe, although budgets are small. There's still a long way to go. I would like to see more drama being produced, and co-productions and collaboration around the world. With the help of the broadcasting community in Canada and the inspiration of how far we've come, this vision will become a reality. ♣

VANISHING WORDS

In an age of globalization, the demise of Indigenous languages is raising alarms and fuelling preservation efforts.

Half of the languages spoken around the world could disappear by the middle of this century, linguists warn. And many in Canada are on the endangered list.

Preserving dozens of Aboriginal languages in this country has gained the urgency Indigenous peoples have felt from Australia and New Zealand to Taiwan.

"Someone could say you're not a people any more because you don't have a language," reflects Amos Key Jr., Director of the First Nations Language Department at the Woodland Cultural Centre near Brantford, Ontario. "I don't want to hear that in my lifetime."

Just 24 percent of people identified as Aboriginal in Canada can converse in their native language, according to the 2001 census. As three Aboriginal languages—Cree, Ojibway and Inuktitut—represent the bulk of those speakers, many native tongues are today known only to a handful of elders.

Of the 60 to 70 historical Aboriginal languages in Canada, about 10 have already been lost, a dozen are considered on the verge of extinction and the same number are endangered.

Key, a member of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory in south-western Ontario, says that when he was in grade school, "it was forbidden to teach an Aboriginal language."

The scientific community has warned that such historical assimilation campaigns—combined with



Starting young: The challenge is to find a context in which language learning is successful.

declining Indigenous populations, increased mobility, economic pressures, as well as exposure to television and other communications technologies—could lead to the loss of half of the world's 6,000 to 7,000 languages by 2050. With such a decline, they warn, will come the demise of local knowledge, mentalities, creativity and heritage, as well as specialized information such as unique survival skills and traditional medicines.

In 2002, the Canadian government committed \$160 million over 10 years to the preservation of Aboriginal languages and culture. That step is vital, Aboriginal leaders believe.

"Canada needs to realize that this loss isn't only for us. It will be a loss for Canada as well," says Ron Ignace, head of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages and Cultures, which is to make policy recommendations to the federal Heritage Minister.

Chief until last year of the Skeetchestn First Nation, near Kamloops, British Columbia, Ignace notes that Canada's support for Indigenous languages will be examined internationally. His wife, Marianne Boelscher Ignace, an associate professor of anthropology and

First Nations studies at Simon Fraser University, is also part of that global discussion.

"The plight of Indigenous languages...has become an international syndrome," she observes. For example, she says, the Maori language became an official language in New Zealand some 20 years ago through a grassroots movement of Maoris realizing their children weren't using it any more.

Part of the New Zealand approach has been the creation of "language nests" that teach the Maori tongue to very young children in child-care settings.

While the main Aboriginal organizations in Canada—the Assembly of First Nations, the Métis National Council and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami—have developed similar school immersion programs, there are many challenges. One is the diversity of Aboriginal languages. Another is that while elders may speak the mother tongue and youngsters can be taught to, their parents in the middle generation often do not know the language, creating a critical gap in usage. Significant rates of intermarriage with non-Aboriginal partners also complicate the task.

A number of preservation efforts are emerging. Salish language specialist Tom Hukari at the University of Victoria, for example, is acting director of a five-year project financed by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council to aid language revitalization among First Nations groups along the B.C. coast.

"Our challenge is to find a context in which language learning is going to be successful," says Hukari, whose program includes training young Aboriginal people to videotape elders in order to document their language.

Mary Jane Norris, Manager of Research at the Aboriginal Affairs

Branch of Canadian Heritage, says that many factors influence how language is transmitted as a mother tongue. "It's community, it's education and it's the family. You can't do it in isolation."

Policy and legislation could play roles in preserving Indigenous languages, says Pamela Shaw, Manager of the Liaison Unit for the Aboriginal Affairs Branch of Canadian Heritage. Laws directed at preservation or recognition could increase government support for Aboriginal language programs and elevate the profile of Aboriginal tongues within Aboriginal communities, she says.

"It isn't just about the loss of a language," Shaw points out. "It's a capacity to transmit a belief system, to parent the next generation, to retain a culture." ♦

To learn more about Indigenous language preservation, visit the Woodland Cultural Centre at www.woodland-centre.on.ca and the Canadian Heritage Aboriginal Affairs Branch at www.pch.gc.ca/progs/pa-app.

Preserving Northern Ways

Between the circumpolar home of Canada's Inuit and the cities of North America and Europe are distances greater than a geographer can measure.

Nowhere is that more apparent than in Aboriginal hunting practices in Canada's North, particularly sealing and whaling. Those practices have continued, at times despite considerable international pressure.

The reasons for tensions range from sober conservation concerns focused on such species as the bowhead whale to largely emotional reactions to commercial sealing activities. On one side are film celebrities and animal rights groups decrying the harvest of marine mammals. On the other is a people whose existence depends on—and whose culture is kept alive through—that harvest.

"We train and educate our children to survive on the land," says Ben Kovic, Director and Chairperson of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board in Iqaluit. "It's part of our teaching, it's part of our spiritual life."

Aboriginal subsistence is protected federally in this country, explains Brian Wong, Program Officer in Resource Management at the Fisheries and Oceans Canada in Ottawa. "Canada, particularly internationally, has adopted the position that we will recognize [Inuit] treaty rights and will act accordingly."

Those rights state that Aboriginal peoples may pursue hunting, trapping and fishing practices except when conservation, public safety or public health considerations are involved.

Canadian conservation groups have largely endorsed the traditional use of wildlife by Aboriginal people—at times even in contrast to their own international organizations.

"We have been working very closely with the [Inuit] communities, particularly in Nunavut," reports Susan Sang, a biologist and senior manager for Arctic conservation at World Wildlife Fund Canada in Toronto. "Aboriginal hunters have respect for wildlife. They are true conservationists. They use all parts of the seal. Nothing is wasted, nothing."

Aayu Peter in Iqaluit will attest to that. Peter grew up with seal hunting, her five



photo courtesy of INAC

children learned to hunt, and she now earns her living crafting garments from seal pelts while she studies law.

"We out of necessity have to hunt, whether the rest of the world likes it or not," says Peter, who wants to work in the field of international law to give her community a larger voice. "It's a necessity for our culture. We have to be out there."

To learn more about Northern subsistence, visit the Web sites of Fisheries and Oceans Canada at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami at www.itk.ca and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board at www.nwmb.com.

Prepared seal pelts: Surviving on the land is part of cultural and spiritual life.

TAKING ACTION ON NORTHERN CONTAMINANTS

Inuit fight toxic pollution in the Arctic on the global stage.



Arctic environment: High levels of toxic chemicals are finding their way into the northern food chain.

When Sheila Watt-Cloutier talks to international policy makers about the impact of toxic chemicals on the Inuit, she speaks from the heart. As a child growing up in the late 1950s and early 1960s in Kuujuaq, a small Inuit village in northern Quebec, Watt-Cloutier led a traditional life, travelling by dogsled and canoe and eating "country foods" such as caribou, ptarmigan, fish, goose, seal and whale.

"The environment is still our supermarket," she says. "The land provides us with nutritious food, and the communal aspects of harvesting and eating help sustain our culture in the face of rapid change."

However, with the disturbing discovery in the past two decades that high levels of toxic chemicals coming

from far outside of the Arctic are making their way into the northern food chain, Inuit who rely on traditional foods for sustenance are at risk. Researchers have found that three quarters of Inuit women far exceed guidelines for polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) levels in their blood and have among the highest recorded PCB levels in breast milk in the world.

"Imagine our shock and concern as we discovered that the food that had nourished us for generations and kept us whole physically and spiritually was now poisoning us," says Watt-Cloutier, Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, an international non-governmental organization representing some 150,000 Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Greenland and Russia.

Toxic chemicals such as DDT and PCBs belong to a group known as persistent organic pollutants (POPs). They remain intact for long periods and travel easily through the atmosphere, posing potentially serious risk to humans, wildlife and the environment. Some POPs increase the risk of cancer, damage to nervous systems and birth defects.

The Government of Canada in 1991 set up the Northern Contaminants Program to conduct research, help Inuit make informed choices about their food and advocate for international controls on POPs. Led by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), the program brought together Health Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Environment Canada, as well as the three territorial governments, university researchers and four Aboriginal organizations in a coalition

called Canadian Arctic Indigenous Peoples Against POPs.

Global talks on the issue, sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme, began in 1998 and concluded in 2001 with the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

David Stone, Director of Northern Science and Contaminants Research for INAC, says the convention targets 12 particularly toxic POPs for reduction and eventual elimination. "More importantly, it sets up a system for tackling additional chemicals," he says. "Ultimately, this points the way forward to a future free of dangerous POPs."

Watt-Cloutier, as then chair of Inuit Circumpolar Conference Canada, played a prominent role in the talks leading up to the Stockholm Convention. At one point, she presented a soapstone carving of an Inuk mother and child that "came to represent the conscience of the negotiations."

She says the global agreement, the first to single out Arctic and Indigenous peoples in its preamble, promises real policy impact at the international level. "It will eventually make our Arctic environment and eating our country food safe once again." 🍁

For more information, visit the Inuit Circumpolar Conference at www.inuitcircumpolar.com, the Northern Contaminants Program at www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ncp and the Web site of the Stockholm Convention at www.pops.int.

OPENING DOORS AND YOUNG MINDS

Aboriginal youth are connecting traditions and the modern world in job placements, gatherings and high-tech links around the globe.

Carmen Daniels is a world away from her Alberta Cree community, living and working with Native youth in Australia. But with only a few keystrokes, she connects young Aboriginal dancers in northern Australia for an on-line chat with a dance and drum group in her hometown of Edmonton.

Daniels is no stranger to travel and high-speed communications with foreign lands. At 30, she is one of a new generation of young Canadian Aboriginals who are going global—without forgetting their roots.

Melina Laboucan-Massimo of Alberta's Lubicon Lake First Nation last year spent six months in Brazil creating on-line links for Indigenous peoples across Latin America through TakingITGlobal, an international youth network that addresses global issues. Now 23, she's back in Canada developing Native content for the organization's Web site.

Stephanie Peter, a member of the Cowichan First Nation on Vancouver Island, passionate about preserving her own people's culture and eager to travel, spent six months on a job placement in the South Pacific that taught valuable life lessons.

Energetic and committed to social change, many of Canada's Native youth are seizing new opportunities to meet their counterparts in other countries and are making the most of new communications technologies to promote Indigenous identity and culture.

The Canadian government, in partnership with non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies, is tapping into the aspirations of these youth with Web sites, global youth parliaments and international job placements and internships that target them.

"Technology is a means to present and preserve Indigenous culture, no matter where I work in the future," says Daniels.

Her belief in the Internet as a tool to inform and empower Native youth grew out of her experiences in 1999 as a coordinator of the Aboriginal Youth Network, a Web site that connects Native youth to each other and to social and health services across the country, with sponsors including the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Health Canada. A year later, sponsored by Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC), she travelled to Sydney, Australia as a delegate to Oxfam's first International Youth Parliament, which brought together 300 young people from around the world to work on issues from youth engagement to poverty and education. The experience inspired her to pursue a long-held dream to live and work in Australia. Over the past three years, she has developed Web sites that serve Aboriginal youth in remote northern communities there.

But Daniels maintains strong ties to home. Last year, she developed the cross-cultural dance project linking Australian Aboriginal dancers with



Making the link: Carmen Daniels works with children from the Injinoo Aboriginal Community at an outdoor festival in North Queensland, Australia.

her Cree grandmother's White Buffalo Dancers and Drummers Society in Edmonton.

With Daniels as intermediary, the young dancers have learned what they have in common: a rich tradition of oral story-telling and, sadly, a painful past of residential schools. "I was proud to facilitate this kind of cultural exchange and proud to be able to connect with my own culture back home," she says.

Laboucan-Massimo remembers when things clicked for her, as one of some 60 Aboriginal people at the second Oxfam Parliament earlier this year in Sydney. "We started calling each other brothers and sisters, even though we are from completely different countries," she recalls. "We had this intrinsic understanding of what it was like to be an Indigenous person."

Technology helps her maintain those person-to-person connections, with initiatives such as TakingITGlobal, a Web site sponsored in part by Corrections Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police that is designed to teach Aboriginal youth how to tell their stories to the world.

In Canada, the federal government provides another powerful connection



Stephanie Peter of Vancouver Island has learned valuable life lessons through global connections.

for Aboriginal youth to gain worldwide job experience. Each year, Foreign Affairs Canada's Young Professionals International (YPI) supports about 35 Aboriginal job placements arranged by environmental and community groups.

"Our participants bring Canada to the world and they bring the

world back to Canada," says YPI Program Officer Brian Foreman, adding that the program offers "meaningful international career-related job experience" for many youth who would not otherwise have such opportunities. The placements for Native youth are especially door-openers to a wider world.

One of the participating groups in YPI is the Pacific Peoples Partnership, a social justice group in Victoria, B.C., that links Indigenous people in Canada and the South Pacific. The organization selected Stephanie Peter to spend six months on Rarotongo, the largest of the Cook Islands, working with local agencies to monitor water quality. While there, she also became a cultural ambassador, sharing her history and traditions with her hosts. Encouraged by local chiefs, she organized an oral history project to record and videotape the pre-Christian legends passed down by

Cook Island elders. It was an experience that drove home the power of global connections for Aboriginal youth.

"My going away made my desire to help my community grow stronger," says Peter, who looks back fondly on her placement, which nurtured skills that will last a lifetime. "My dream of helping my community develop in a culturally and environmentally friendly manner was brought one step closer." 🍁

To learn more about the international programs and initiatives for Aboriginal youth mentioned in this story, see

www.international.gc.ca/yip-jpi;
www.takingitglobal.org;
www.pacificpeoplespartnership.org;
www.iyp.oxfam.org; and
www.ayn.ca.

IN BRIEF

Internet-savvy youth concerned with jobs

Finding a job is a top concern of Canadian youth, and they are likely to use the Internet to do it, a survey commissioned by Foreign Affairs Canada has found. The study showed that 32 percent of young people identify unemployment as their greatest concern for the future, followed by education (20 percent) and finances (10 percent). The poll's purpose was to understand what motivates young people and where they go for information about career and personal development opportunities such as international travel and job placements.

Of those surveyed, 93 percent say they have access to the Internet and 79 percent say they have used it to find career and job information. Other activities include communicating

with friends, hobbies and entertainment and shopping. The telephone poll was done by Ipsos Reid among 1,200 Canadians aged 18 to 35 and has a margin of error of ± 2.8 percent, 19 times out of 20.

Canadians on 9-11

A new book recounts the uniquely Canadian aspects of the collapse of the World Trade Centre.

Written as a tribute to the 26 Canadians who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, *Orange Alert* includes recollections, first-hand accounts, poems and drawings by political and business leaders, journalists,

firefighters, emergency service workers, ministers, philosophers and children.

Ottawa author Debra Brown says she and her husband David Brown were inspired to write the book because they were "touched by heart-wrenching poems and reflections from elementary

school children" about the tragedy.

"The common theme among the people we interviewed about September 11 is that it was a wake-up call to the real evil that we face, and that we must stand up to it," she says.

The book is available from Trafford Publishing for \$19.95 and can be found at booksellers or

at **www.orangealert.ca**.





A series of announcements from Canada starring an unlikely trio delivers a serious message.

Meet the new ambassadors for safer sex: three animated condoms named Shaft, Dick and Stretch. In the deadly serious battle to stop the spread of AIDS, a wildly funny series of public service announcements co-produced in Canada is scoring direct hits.

Since the South African Broadcasting Corporation began airing the series featuring the characters dubbed "The Three Amigos" on World AIDS Day, December 1, 2003, one non-governmental organization in that country reports that condom sales have spiked by 63 percent. Firdaus Kharas of Ottawa, who developed the series along with South African co-producer Brent Quinn, says the television broadcasts work because "they are non-threatening. We use humour to make a serious point."

In one 60-second spot, the three friends are playing soccer and find they "just can't score without a condom." In another, they are astronauts who cannot blast off without protection. "We are destigmatizing condoms," Kharas says. "We want the target group of 15- to 24-year-olds to think condoms are cool."

The series proved its worldwide appeal at the 15th International AIDS Conference last July in Bangkok, Thailand. Kharas, who attended

the meetings with the support of Foreign Affairs Canada, says daily screenings of the comedic sketches were packed. "The whole world was laughing at them."

The productions have been endorsed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu as a "powerful communicating tool" and were introduced at the Canadian Film Festival in South Africa in March by Canadian High Commissioner Sandelle Scrimshaw. "This is a brilliant concept," Scrimshaw wrote the co-producers, "that may make a huge difference to the lives of people, not just in South Africa, but across the globe."

Kharas now wants to launch "The Three Amigos" in more countries, particularly India and in Eastern Europe, where rising AIDS infection rates are causing alarm. The goal is to get the series of 20 spots broadcast on national networks in 100 countries with \$100 million in donated air time, reaching one billion people.

Such broadcasts are part of a larger public education campaign that includes local distribution of tapes of the announcements. In South Africa, the Canadian International Development Agency is contributing \$100,000 to an HIV/AIDS prevention initiative in which tapes of the announcements in Zulu, Afrikaans,



Making a point through humour: "The Three Amigos" help to destigmatize condom use.

illustration: courtesy of Firdaus Kharas

Sotho and English will be available at various locations, such as military barracks, prisons, health clinics and cinemas. They will also be shown on a cross-country network of plasma screens in minibus stops used by 1.5 million riders daily.

Versions in 40 more languages are being produced with support from OMNI Television, a multilingual television service based in Toronto. Rather than translate the sketches, the producers recruit young people who speak each language to voice new versions of the traditional scripts, laced with local humour.

The project has so far involved 80 people in three countries and a considerable sum of Kharas's own money, but he continues to be enthusiastic about the possibility of making condoms true "amigos" for life. "AIDS is a preventable disease," Kharas says. "I am absolutely convinced we could stop it in its tracks." ♣

You can find sample announcements by "The Three Amigos" and further information at www.thethreeamigos.org.

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Museum Presence for Canada

The new National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. opened in September with unique contributions from Canada.

A sculpture by British Columbia Aboriginal artist Susan Point called *The Beaver and the Mink* has been donated by the Canadian government to be prominently displayed in the museum's entrance rotunda. A contemporary yet traditional piece depicting a Coast Salish legend about the origin of salmon in the rivers, the red cedar sculpture was chosen by a panel of Aboriginal art professionals from Canada.

Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew said the sculpture showcases Canada's Aboriginal culture and emphasizes the positive contributions it makes to the Americas. "Canada and the United States share many unique Aboriginal cultures," he said. "This gift will bear witness to those ties."

The new museum features a good deal of other Canadian involvement, from Meris architect Douglas Cardinal's original curvilinear design to the Aboriginal communities in Canada that have been included in exhibitions of native life, identity and views of the world. Dominating the landscape are a cardinal stone marking north from Acasta Lake in the Northwest Territories and 40 Grandfather Rocks selected from a quarry in Alma, Quebec.

The Canadian Embassy in Washington marked the opening of the museum with a cultural program rich in Aboriginal talent and creativity, including an exhibition of Aboriginal art from the Canada Council Art Bank, as well as storytelling, workshops, musical and dance performances and films. Nine Aboriginal journalists from across Canada travelled to Washington, with the support of Foreign Affairs Canada's Media Outreach Program, to observe and report on Canada's contribution to the new museum and the festivities surrounding its opening.

To learn more about the museum, visit www.nmai.si.edu. For details of the Canadian events surrounding the opening, see www.canadianembassy.org.



Curvilinear design:
The National Museum of the American Indian's undulating facade gives it the appearance of a stratified stone mass.

Aboriginal artist Susan Point won a 2004 National Aboriginal Achievement Award for her work, which encompasses a wide range of materials and styles, from traditional to contemporary.



The sculpture, donated by Canada, will be seen by some one million international visitors who pass through the rotunda each year.

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Canada World View

ISSUE 24 • WINTER 2005

CANADA

Friends and Neighbours

Sharing the continent

- Seizing opportunities with Mexico
- Filming in the shadow of the elephant



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About Canada World View

Canada World View provides an overview of Canada's perspective on foreign policy issues and highlights the Government of Canada's international initiatives and contributions. *Canada World View* is published quarterly in English and French by Foreign Affairs Canada.

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Our cover

Tobitha Stevens of Wainfleet, Ontario, takes part in a rally in nearby Queenstown in April, 2003. Canada and the U.S. share a bond unparalleled not only in the world today but throughout history.

(Photo: L2 (Bob-Tymoczko))

This page

U.S. President George W. Bush is flanked by RCMP officers as he addresses a dinner in his honor in Gatineau, Quebec.

(Photo: Eugene Dumas, P&G)

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A BORDER PEOPLE

Norman Hillmer is Professor of History and International Affairs at Carleton University. He is co-author, with J. L. Granatstein, of *For Better or For Worse*, a history of Canada-U.S. relations, the second edition of which will be published by Thomson Nelson.

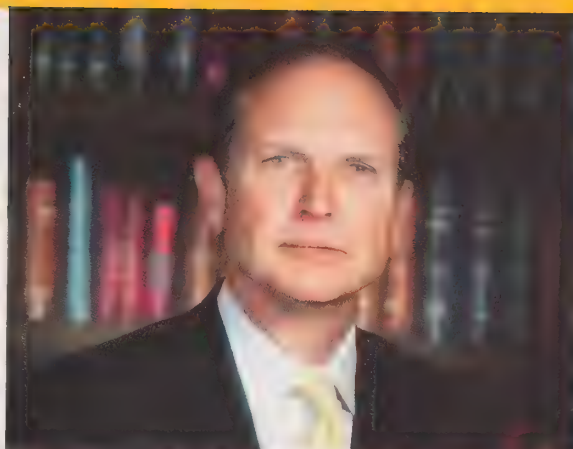


photo: studio von dilling

Norman Hillmer: Canadians take the border seriously.

I was born in Niagara Falls, Ontario, within sight of Niagara Falls, New York. I've lived almost all my life a short distance from the United States, and my wife is American. In none of this am I an unusual Canadian. Seventy-five percent of Canada's population resides in a narrow 150-kilometre band pushing up against the U.S., with close ties south of the line. We are a border people. The border is our livelihood. The border is our identity.

The Canada-U.S. border is the longest international meeting of two countries, extending for 8,893 kilometres over land and water. It is frequently called the 49th parallel, but that degree of latitude accounts only for the plane from Vancouver to Lake of the Woods in Ontario. Near Windsor, Canada's southern extremity dips almost as low as the 42nd parallel, on a rough line with Boston and Chicago. In the north, the border rises to the Beaufort Sea at the end of the Alaska-Yukon frontier. More than 300,000 North Americans and well over a billion dollars in goods and services cross the boundary each day.

The "world's longest undefended border" is the most tenacious of the relationship's images. In 1914, marking the 100th anniversary of the end of the War of 1812 between the two countries, enthusiasts rejoiced in the unfortified frontier that separated but did not divide Canada and the U.S. The war that broke out in Europe



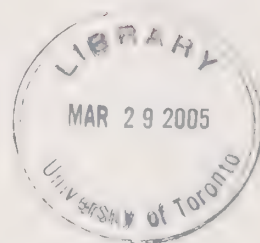
Border ties: Sergeant R. Cox, (left), representing Canada, and Lieutenant Oscar Haffa, representing the United States, clasp hands at the international border on the new Peace bridge between Fort Erie, Ontario and Buffalo, New York, in 1927.

that same year only reinforced the sense that the Old World was a violent place. North America was an oasis of calm and reason.

The truth was somewhat different. Less than 20 years earlier, Canada had prepared for war with the U.S. At the turn of the 20th century, the U.S. deployed armed warships on the Great

Lakes. During the dispute over access to the Yukon gold fields, President Theodore Roosevelt said he was going to "get ugly" with Canada and sent troops northward to demonstrate the intent. During the First World War, the Government of Canada heavily fortified the frontier to prevent raids by enemy sympathizers.

Canadians take the border seriously. From the country's beginnings, they emphasized the contrasts with their neighbours, and nation-built with a vengeance. That was the point of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the Canada Council. The boundary, writes journalist Peter Newman, "is the most important fact about this country. It defines not only our citizenship but how we behave collectively and what we think individually. It determines who we are." And what we are, many Canadians insist, is an un-America of the



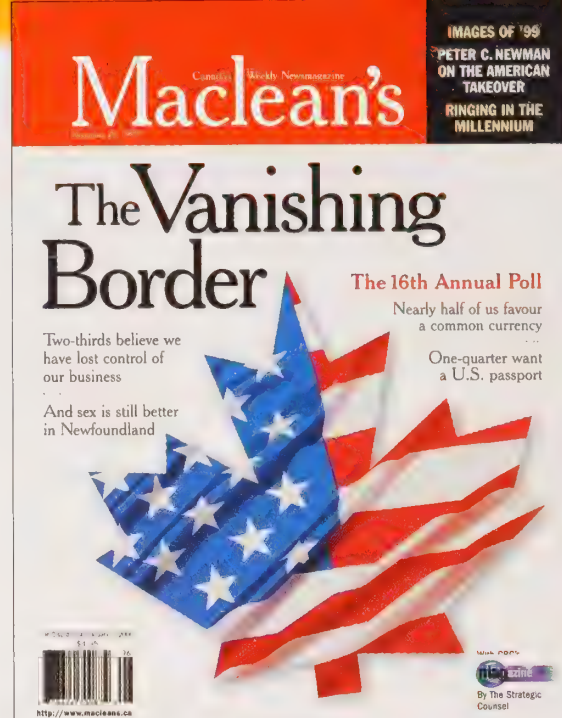
spirit—stable, pacific and compassionate, utterly unlike the extreme and unruly Yanks.

All the while, however, the connectedness has only grown. To the natural ties of family and commerce were added deepening cultural influences and, beginning in the Second World War, an intimate military alliance. In August 1940, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt met Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King on the border, in Ogdensburg, New York, to concert action for the defence of North America. That summit, involving common necessities and compatible leaders, launched the modern Canadian-American relationship.

By the 20th century's end, with free trade firmly in place between the two countries, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace asserted that the border was "likely to disappear before any politician finds the political courage to negotiate its removal." The Canadian edition of *Time* magazine in mid-2000 enquired "What Border?" while *Maclean's* highlighted "The Vanishing Border" on a December 1999 cover featuring a star-spangled maple leaf. The accompanying *Maclean's* story led with polling data that suggested a borderless North America was only a matter of time. Canadians still wished to be different—and felt different—but 25 percent of those surveyed indicated that they would become American citizens if the opportunity arose.

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 brought sympathy with the U.S.—but not nearness. The 2002 *Maclean's* year-end survey showed that the desire for U.S. citizenship had diminished, as had support for a common North American currency. Only 38 percent thought the two countries shared a common set of values and beliefs. None of this could be divorced from a widespread wariness about post-9/11 U.S. foreign policy and the makers of that policy.

President George W. Bush, his heartland a long way from the border, has been a gift to Canadian nationalism.



A special issue of *Maclean's* in 1999 suggested a borderless North America was only a matter of time.

In a Bush world, border security has been heightened and predictions of borderlessness are receding. Canadians like my students display a reinforced confidence in the superiority of their peaceable and tolerant kingdom. Books by Daniel Drache and James Laxer, focusing on the border, wax optimistically about the prospects for an independent Canadian future in an age of North American integration. Borders matter, Drache exclaims.

Borders do matter, but they can have more than one meaning. The long and porous Canada-U.S. frontier fosters similarity and cooperation. Canada and the U.S. are interdependent, their pasts and their futures woven together inextricably and inevitably. It isn't fashionable to say it, but the border people have far more in common with their southern neighbours than most dare admit. ♣



Intimate alliance: (left to right) U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt, Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King and U.S. Secretary of War Henry Stimson met on the border in Ogdensburg, New York, in 1940 in a summit that launched the modern Canadian-American relationship.

MODEL NEIGHBOURS



A commitment to cooperation. Prime Minister Paul Martin and U.S. President George W. Bush wave to the crowd at the Pier 21 National Historic Site in Halifax as part of Mr. Bush's two-day visit to Canada.

Despite cultural differences, perennial trade disputes and large divergences in power, Canada and the United States share a relationship unparalleled in—and instructive for—the world.

When the most devastating hostile act against the United States in 60 years took place on the morning of September 11, 2001, the NORAD command center in Colorado instantly coordinated national defence responses.

Remarkably, the commanding director that day was a Canadian, Captain Michael Jellinek. In a historic moment of national crisis, no one thought twice about a Canadian directing U.S. military forces in assessing the attack and securing North American skies.

"Can you imagine any other national being in charge of the American forces on that basis?" asks Rob Huebert, a fellow at the Canadian Defence & Foreign Affairs Institute and associate director of the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies at the University of Calgary. "One of the hallmarks of the Canada-U.S. relationship is just how broad and deep it is."

In defence, trade, academic endeavour, scientific and cultural exchange, the maintenance of the world's longest unmilitarized border and myriad other connections, Canada and the U.S. share a bond unparalleled not only in the world today but throughout history.

That point was underscored by the recent working visit to Canada by U.S. President George W. Bush and the joint statement, a New Partnership in North America, by Mr. Bush and Prime Minister Paul Martin highlighting

the commitment by the two countries to deepen our cooperation in North America and in the world.

This partnership sets an agenda for both governments that is designed to increase the security, prosperity and the quality of life of our citizens. Examples of this cooperation include mutual efforts to reinforce the Smart Border Accord, expand economic opportunity in the global market place, protect our environment, improve our ability to combat infectious disease, fight crime, and prevent trafficking in humans and illegal drugs.

"The relationship between Canada and the United States is indispensable to peace and prosperity on the North American continent," Mr. Bush told a press conference following the meetings. Added Mr. Martin: "We have common shared values, shared ambitions, and we share optimism, also. I think that that is what is fundamental."

A comprehensive relationship

As broad as the line that stretches between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and despite differences in areas such as the war in Iraq, the Kyoto Accord and social issues that brought out protestors to have their say about the recent visit, relations between Canada and the U.S. are defined more by cooperation than any other factor.

"The two countries are so fortunate to have each other as neighbours," remarks Clifford Krauss, the Canada-based correspondent for *The New York Times*.

Krauss has chronicled the areas where Canada and the U.S. appear to be diverging, especially on cultural issues such as gay marriage and the decriminalization of marijuana. But he says he "realized the countries weren't Siamese twins" when he was first posted to Toronto three years ago. "I'm never surprised by these differences and never see them as something out of the ordinary."

The capacity for the U.S. and Canada to collaborate has always impressed him, Krauss says—never more so than during a previous posting to Peru, when the two countries were instrumental in aiding the peaceful transition of power following the term of President Alberto Fujimori. "There was an example I saw before my own eyes of Canada and the U.S. working together and being extremely effective," he says, "where each did things it couldn't do on its own."

Trade shows a similar depth of cooperation; while periodic and often cyclical disagreements in areas such as softwood lumber, cattle and wheat grab headlines, a staggering \$1.8 billion in goods and services crosses the Canada-U.S. border every day.

"The relationship is strong and comprehensive," says Peter Boehm, the incoming Assistant Deputy Minister for North America at Foreign Affairs Canada. "We are each other's most important partner."

The term used to describe this partnership in Ottawa and Washington is "intermestic": while international in the sense that it involves two sovereign nations, it encompasses the economy, environment, security and other areas of domestic policy on both sides of the border.

"The political relationship and the policy relationship are akin to the trading relationship," Boehm observes, "in that the vast majority of it goes very smoothly. We work things out."

Enhanced Representation in the U.S.

Canada continues to foster that relationship today through the Enhanced Representation Initiative, which has seen the addition or upgrading of consulates and the appointment of new honorary consuls throughout the U.S., especially in the South and Southwest. Such efforts will increase Canada's presence in the country to advance trade, investment and knowledge sharing.

Karen Matthias, who recently became the Canadian Consul in Anchorage, Alaska, one of the newest of the Canadian missions, says the initiative "is very much a partnership of several government departments," including Industry Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, created to increase Canada's representation. "It's about getting rid of 'stovepipes' and having greater coordination in our efforts."

Expanded presence: As part of the Enhanced Representation Initiative, the Government of Canada has opened seven new consulates in the U.S. and is upgrading two consulates to consulates general (shown on the map by flags), bringing Canada's representation in the country to 22 offices. As well, 20 honorary consuls are being appointed in important U.S. cities where there are no Canadian government offices to champion our interests. These initiatives reinforce Canada's presence in the U.S., particularly in the South and Southwest.



The bigger picture

On an even larger scale, Canada, the U.S. and Mexico are also advancing a continental agenda through the evolving mechanism of NAFTA, as well as other means. And initial meetings in Toronto in October saw the launch of a Council on Foreign Relations task force to explore much greater continental integration.

Former Deputy Prime Minister John Manley, co-chair of the task force, says that there is concern that North America "must not remain static" amid the expansion and increasing integration of the European Union and the rapid emergence of Asia—especially China—as a global trading power.

The Canadian partnership with Mexico will also greatly benefit by addressing such matters. Canada is now marking 60 years of diplomatic relations with Mexico, and both countries are interested in deepening the bonds. The recent visit to Canada by Mexican President Vicente Fox resulted in the signing of a partnership agreement between the countries that paves the way for a series of public and private-sector initiatives.

However, it's not all about products and security; nations on a continent share the water and air as well. Indeed, environmental concerns and trade are now strongly linked in North America, notes Chantal-Line Carpentier, head of the environment, economy and trade program of the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation in Montreal.

"We have a lot of collaboration as we look at renewable energy," says Carpentier, whose intergovernmental organization helps the three countries establish harmonized environmental policies. "We look at capacity building, local development and the environment so we can improve our trade. It's a win-win-win."

A family bond

The U.S. is also working to foster greater integration with Mexico. Yet in terms of historical parallels and political closeness, the Canada-U.S. relationship enjoys a familial bond unmatched by any other nations.

"Our countries were both built on immigration, and not just immigrants but refugees; that makes for a different kind of society," notes Michael Dawson, Senior Policy Advisor of U.S. Relations at Foreign Affairs Canada. "These are countries with strong regional cultures and that's a big similarity."

Canada and the U.S. also have major political commonality in being federal states, with the U.S. becoming the first such nation in the world in 1776, and Canada the third in 1867 (following Switzerland). And while no two federal countries are exactly alike in their administration,

observes Karl Nerenberg, director of public information for the Forum of Federations in Ottawa, federalism is a "significant point of understanding" between the nations.

The close sharing of political principles between Canada and the U.S. has made for repeated successful military alliances over the last century. Soldiers from Canada and the U.S. fought side by side in two world wars, in the Korean War and in recent conflicts, including the Gulf War, Kosovo, Haiti and Afghanistan.

Canada has also done a good job of responding to U.S. security concerns in the wake of September 11, believes Joseph Jockel, director of the Canadian Studies Program at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., one of more than 50 such programs across the U.S. Jockel adds that the U.S. is also pleased with the apparent Canadian flexibility on continental missile defence. While some cultural differences have been accentuated of late, those long-term defence and economic linkages prevail and dominate.

"No matter what the politics are, no matter who the leaders are, this is always going to be the most important trading relationship in the world," says Jockel. "I think Canadians pay a lot more attention to the politics and optics of the bilateral relationship than Americans do."

That's a natural consequence of being a nation of just over 30 million people alongside one of nearly 10 times as many, and a historic global power at that. While Canadians are at times sensitive to the political ins and outs of the friendship, more notable is how many connections are taken for granted.



Cross-border picnic in Coutts, Alberta: At almost any regional track meet, film festival, scientific conference, hobbyist gathering or good-sized public event of any description on the continent, Canadians and Americans will almost invariably both be present.

Cross-border hopping

To make that point, one need travel no farther than any regional track meet, film festival, scientific conference, hobbyist gathering or good-sized public event of any description on the continent. Almost invariably, Canadians and Americans will both be present.

When Toronto's Santa Claus Parade recently celebrated its 100th anniversary, for example, U.S. marching bands took their place alongside the Canadian musical groups. Participants from the U.S. are seamlessly welcomed into such contexts as fixtures of the Canadian landscape.

"I thought we were wonderfully well-received," recounts Mark Maxwell, band director for Lexington High School in Lexington, Ohio, who brought 84 young musicians and 25 adult volunteers and staff to Toronto for the occasion. "I enjoyed the friendliness of the city, I enjoyed the people."

The Band of Gold, as the ensemble is known, carried a banner to display their place of origin, but not much else distinguishes Canadian from U.S. participants in countless other settings.

For instance, young competitive figure skaters in Manitoba might find themselves skating in competitions in Grand Forks, North Dakota, or Duluth, Minnesota, as readily as Winnipeg, and vice-versa. Amateur athletes registered with Skate Canada or the U.S. Figure Skating Association travel freely between events on either side of the border. "We're all in the same little happy family," declares Karen Landers, head coach of Skate Winnipeg.

The same comment could be made about oncologists, chemical engineers, sociologists, model train enthusiasts or participants of any other professional, industrial or recreational pursuit. So familiar is the dynamic that a major conference of any description in Canada or the U.S. rarely fails to include delegates from both nations.

Indeed, many professional, academic, business, labour and other associations have an explicitly Canada-U.S. orientation, with shared governance. Community and charitable groups such as Rotary International and Toastmasters International don't divide chapters at the border but by region, with, say, Ontario and Michigan or British Columbia and Washington treated as single population areas.

U.S. public radio and television affiliates near the border rely on donations from Canadians for much of their funding, while the Stratford Festival in southwestern Ontario derives up to half of its box-office revenues from U.S. visitors.

Trading spaces

There are many such anecdotes all along the border, but trade also quantifies the point. "About 40 per cent of the trade between the two countries is within companies that operate on both sides of the border," notes Dawson, "which really speaks of the high level of integration."

As globalizing trends and technology advance the growth of multinational corporations, Canada and the U.S., old hands at integration, are more of an allied business entity than ever.

Heather Nicol, professor of political geography at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Georgia, and president of the Southern Association for Canadian Studies, says that Home Depot, the hardware chain headquartered in her home city of Atlanta, is reported to be responsible for more trade with Ontario than the entire U.S. is with France.

Nicol, who is originally from Toronto, notes that there remains a different way of seeing the world from the Canadian side of the border, and this has been good for

photo: courtesy of The Ambassador Bridge



The stately Ambassador Bridge linking Windsor and Detroit is a powerful symbol of the geographic and economic ties between Canada and the U.S.

both nations. Between them, Canada and the U.S. model cooperation and closeness, despite cultural differences, perennial trade disputes and large divergences in power. And it's a model that is of increasing use globally.

"All of the big issues in the last 10 to 15 years are political geography issues, whether it's the end of the Cold War or border disputes," Nicol concludes. "The Canada-U.S. relationship is tremendously important for understanding what's going on in the world." ♦

For more information about Canada's relations with the U.S. and Mexico, visit www.international.gc.ca.

For details of the ERI and other aspects of Canada's representation in the U.S., see www.international.gc.ca/can-am.

To see more on the recent visits to Canada of U.S. President George W. Bush and Mexico President Vicente Fox, see www.pm.gc.ca.

photo: CP (Peter Power)



A memorial in Gander, Newfoundland marks the site of a plane crash on December 12, 1985, that killed 258 people.

Bridging the border

They rumble night and day down Ontario's Highway 401, trucks loaded with Canadian goods headed for markets in the United States and beyond. Their next stop: the stately Ambassador Bridge, the world's longest international suspension bridge. Linking Windsor and Detroit, it hums with vehicles, an average of 9,500 trucks crossing both ways every day of the year, carrying more merchandise than passes through any other border crossing on the globe.

With 45,000 trucks traversing the entire border daily—that's one every two seconds—the span vividly symbolizes the geographic and economic ties that have made Canada and the U.S. each other's most important trading partner. If the border were not to function well, neither would the trading relationship.

Efficient border management is crucial not only to the economies of Canada and the U.S., but to their security as well. With this in mind, in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001, Canada and the U.S. signed the Smart Border Declaration. Accompanied by a 32-point Action Plan that covers everything from port inspections to joint law enforcement teams, the accord aims to ensure a smoothly operating border that keeps cargo flowing while addressing security concerns.

"The issue is risk management," says George Costaris, manager of political-economic relations and public affairs at the Canadian

Consulate in Detroit. "The goal is to ensure that the border functions well without sacrificing either trade or security."

One of the most welcome developments is expedited clearance for preauthorized shipments, known as FAST. David Bradley, Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Trucking Alliance, a federation of provincial trucking organizations, says dedicated FAST lanes for truck shipments are "the single best hope we have for a border that runs smoothly."

In addition, under the NEXUS program, preapproved, low-risk travellers may use dedicated lanes at about a dozen bridge and land crossings. The latest innovation for travellers is NEXUS Air, now being piloted at Vancouver International Airport. After posing before a digital camera that uses iris recognition technology to verify their identity, preapproved NEXUS "members" can complete the U.S. customs and immigration process at a self-service kiosk. Canadians re-entering the country may use the self-service kiosk to declare goods and pay duties or taxes.

Underlining its commitment to the Action Plan, the Government of Canada has established a \$600-million Border Infrastructure Fund for areas such as new highway approaches and improved facilities, focusing on the busiest crossing points between Canada and the U.S.

Another key initiative of the plan is the expansion of the Integrated Border Enforcement Teams to every strategic location across the

Canada-U.S. border. These multi-agency and binational law enforcement teams increase the ability to pursue groups and individuals suspected of criminal and terrorist activities while allowing unfettered cross-border access by lawful citizens.

Bradley describes border concerns as one of Canada's most pressing economic issues, and few would disagree. For both the Canadian and U.S. governments, as well as for importers and exporters, business travellers and day-trippers, the Smart Border is the key to keeping the 130 border crossings operating effectively.

So significant is the accord that it was among the top agenda items when Prime Minister Paul Martin and U.S. President George W. Bush met in Ottawa in November. "We will collaborate further to ensure that our shared border is closed to terror but open to the safe movement of people and goods," Mr. Martin said.

The two leaders discussed the possibility of a new crossing at the Windsor-Detroit point, an acknowledgement of the critical role played by border links in generating jobs and prosperity for the continent's two northern neighbours.

For more information on the Canada Border Services Agency visit www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca. To learn about the Border Infrastructure Fund see www.infrastructure.gc.ca and click on "Infrastructure Programs."

SPEAKING FOR CANADA

The job of representing Canada in the seat of the American Empire is unequalled in its demands—and rewards.

They hold arguably the most influential position in Canada's Foreign Service, stewards of one of the world's most important and enduring bilateral relationships.

Occupying a position between the dominant power on the planet and

the top political power in Canada, Canadian envoys to Washington work gruelling hours, manage hundreds of files, navigate corridors of clout and engage in a social whirl that makes the job equally demanding of their spouses. And they wouldn't have it any other way.

"Nowhere are Canadian interests more profoundly

at stake. Nowhere are the issues vital to Canada more in play," says Michael Kergin, Canada's Ambassador to the U.S. since 2000. "To be part of the action in Washington on a daily basis is for me an exceptional honour and an awesome responsibility."

Most of Canada's representatives to Washington, including Mr. Kergin, come from the ranks of senior mandarins and long-time diplomatic and political masters. Yet they say the position is unequalled in the need to "hit the ground running," with a wide-ranging curiosity and a deep

understanding of international affairs, the full confidence of the Canadian government and the ability to establish relationships of trust with key centres of power in the capital.

"Very early on you realize that the Canada-U.S. relationship overwhelms all others in importance," says Raymond Chrétien, ambassador through much of the two Clinton administrations. "It's more true now than it was in the past."

Indeed, Alan Gotlieb, Canada's longest-serving ambassador through much of the 1980s, says that when he joined the Foreign Service in 1954, the U.S. division at the Department of External Affairs consisted of just two people. "They dealt with cross-border bridges and tunnels, that was basically it."

Most notably in the early days, the post was limited to dealings with the Executive Branch carried out behind closed doors; diplomats weren't welcome on Capitol Hill. Lester B. Pearson wrote in his memoirs of speaking out on issues as ambassador and being "gently rapped over the knuckles" by State Department officials concerned "that a diplomat should deal only with them, not directly with Congress or the press, and only prudently and blandly with the public."

Starting in the post-Watergate era, with the power of the President challenged by Congress, Mr. Gotlieb and his successors came to practise a new diplomacy. The focus of their dealings came to include Congress, its committees and members, other government

departments and agencies, special interest groups, the media, lobbyists and the public.

Geography today plays no small part in this practice. The Canadian mission, opened in 1989, is positioned directly in front of Capitol Hill, making it convenient for contacts to "walk over for meetings or lunches or social events," Mr. Kergin says.

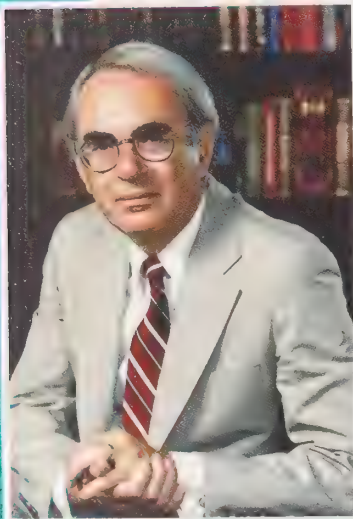
A new secretariat is being set up in the Embassy to better represent Canada's interests at the provincial and parliamentary level, and to present a common Canadian position in dealing with Congress, the states, interest groups and the public.

Getting noticed in Washington is a complex task. Without the ability to deliver votes or contribute money, a foreign power needs to appeal to U.S. interests and to ally itself with American special interest groups in the lobbying effort.

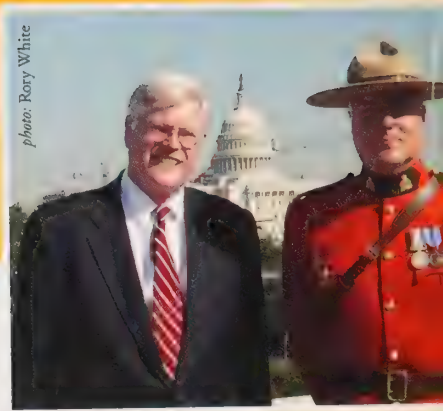
Developing alliances is especially critical for the head of post.

"There are 160 ambassadors in Washington and they all want attention of some kind," says Derek Burney, who represented Canada in Washington during the term of George Bush Sr. "You only get positive attention if you can get access to the people who make the decisions."

For Mr. Chrétien, being an ambassador meant "being a bit more daring. You have to take chances; you have to not be afraid to talk about controversial



Former ambassador Alan Gotlieb:
A neutral meeting ground.



Ambassador Michael Kergin stands with a Mountie on the 6th floor terrace of the Embassy in the shadow of Capitol Hill.



Former ambassador Raymond Chrétien with former president Bill Clinton: "The Canada-U.S. relationship overwhelms all others."



Former ambassador Derek Burney with then chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, Colin Powell.

issues. Otherwise, you don't exist and you'll not become a player."

Much of such interaction takes place in social settings well beyond office hours. "Washington's the only place where you would die to be invited to 20 or 30 dinner parties a night," Mr. Gotlieb remembers. "It's a place of endless fascination, if you are able to make the contacts and get the access and participate."

Mr. Gotlieb was best known for making the Canadian embassy a "neutral meeting ground" for an eclectic and influential mix of players from all parts of Washington: Republicans and Democrats, Cabinet secretaries and labour leaders, popular cultural icons and intellectuals. "We were able to play a unique role, for a time, although when we arrived in Washington we didn't know anybody," says Mr. Gotlieb, whose wife Sondra played a central role as well.

Indeed, the involvement of spouses is critical to diplomatic success in the city. "Washington operates very much in pairs," says Mr. Kergin, who met his wife Margarita in Washington in 1972, when he was on his first diplomatic assignment there. Mrs. Kergin is currently president of one of the high-powered clubs that bring together the spouses of those involved in politics, the media, diplomacy and other endeavours in the city.

Getting "beyond the Beltway" is also critical, says Mr. Chrétien.

"You're not Ambassador to Washington; you're Ambassador to the U.S., and you have to travel the country."

Leaving Washington behind in the end is hard, say the former envoys, who have moved on to prominent positions in law and business in Canada and lent their weight to boards, foundations and positions in academe. They watch as renewed administrations in Ottawa and Washington seek common ground, and they reflect on the diplomatic challenges ahead amid trade disputes, diverging personal values, shared interests such as security and political differences between the two countries.

Finding a way forward in the relationship is critical for Canada, they say, giving the country leverage for our interests internationally—as well as easing the job for our representative in the capital. "Managing our relationship with the United States in a civil and proper fashion will help us have influence on a larger world stage," says Mr. Burney.

"If we want to influence outcomes, then we have to be able to influence Washington," echoes Mr. Gotlieb. "The ambassador has great potential in that." ♣

Learn more about Canada's mission in Washington at www.canadianembassy.org.



Our men in Washington

There have been 20 Canadian representatives in Washington. Among the early envoys were some of the venerable figures of Canada's independent Foreign Service, as the country opened to the world and found a voice with its nearest neighbour. More recent heads of mission have negotiated Washington's changing landscape and shifting power centres, an increased focus on public diplomacy and ever-more complex bilateral relations.

1927 – 1930	Vincent Massey
1931 – 1935	William Herridge
1936 – 1939	Sir Herbert Marler
1939 – 1941	Loring Christie
1941 – 1944	Leighton McCarthy
1944 – 1946	Lester B. Pearson
1946 – 1953	Hume Wrong
1953 – 1957	Arnold Heeney
1957 – 1958	Norman Robertson
1959 – 1962	Arnold Heeney
1962 – 1966	Charles Ritchie
1966 – 1970	Ed Ritchie
1970 – 1975	Marcel Cadieux
1975 – 1977	Jake Warren
1977 – 1981	Peter Towe
1981 – 1989	Allan Gotlieb
1989 – 1993	Derek Burney
1993 – 1994	John de Chastelain
1994 – 2000	Raymond Chrétien
2000 – 2005	Michael Kergin
2005 –	Frank McKenna (Ambassador designate)

SLEEPING WITH THE ELEPHANT

Canada's film industry enjoys considerable success in the shadow of a cultural giant.

When a Hollywood movie called *Just Friends* opens in North American theatres later this year, Canada will enjoy a supporting role. The romantic comedy set in New Jersey—starring Canadian actor Ryan Reynolds of *Blade: Trinity* fame and a cameo performance by his Canadian rock-singer fiancée Alanis Morissette—is being filmed beginning in January in Saskatchewan,

the first time a major U.S. studio has set up shop in the province. Drawn by Saskatchewan's tax incentives and the customized, modern production facilities in Regina, Rob Merilees, the line producer for *Just Friends*, already plans to bring another film to the province in 2005. "The soundstage in Regina is world-class and brand new—as good as or better than anything in Los Angeles," he says.

Many Canadian provinces and territories enjoy a big thumbs-up from American producers for their talent, locations and facilities, as well as Canada's favourable exchange rate and tax incentives. In addition to working on U.S. productions north of the border, many Canadian actors, filmmakers and technical specialists go south to seek their fortune at the source.

It's a two-way exchange that benefits both sides—and evens the playing field. Since the silent film era of the 1920s, Hollywood has dominated Canadian movie screens, so much so that major U.S. producers and distributors consider Canada part of their domestic market. Currently, U.S. feature films account for about 91 percent of box office receipts in Canada, while 70 percent of prime-time Canadian TV originates in the U.S. In 2002-03, Canadian English-language films generated only one percent of the country's box office revenues. Not surprisingly, Canadian producers struggle to sell their films in the intensely competitive U.S. market as well.

In response to the overwhelming dominance of American films in Canada, the federal and provincial

governments have used a range of cultural policy tools to promote and nurture the Canadian industry—policies that have sometimes raised concerns south of the border. Most recently, Hollywood has been concerned about tax benefits and a low exchange rate luring film and television production north. One infamous report suggested the U.S. industry in 1998 lost more than \$10 billion in "runaway productions," mostly to Canada. However, a study commissioned by the Canadian industry and released last October put the figure at less than \$2 billion.

"It's become gospel that Canada is taking film and TV jobs away from the United States," says Roz Wolfe, a 23-year veteran of Canada's Consulate General in Los Angeles. She says that most observers believe that jobs are leaving Hollywood largely because of the cyclical nature of the industry and the rise of "reality-based" TV shows that don't need writers, actors or certain types of talent like production designers and costumers. "Most of the American states are also aggressively enticing production away from Los Angeles," Wolfe says. "And even when a production goes to Canada, it still creates post-production jobs in the U.S."

The Consulate has become a magnet both for Americans seeking Canadian talent and for Canadian producers hoping to break into the U.S. market. A print and Web-based publication produced by the Consulate called the "Canadian Talent in Los Angeles Directory," for example, lists more than 2,000 Canadian industry professionals in the city. "We try to



Just Friends duo: Canadian actor Ryan Reynolds and rock-singer Alanis Morissette appear at the recent premiere of *Blade: Trinity*.

update the on-line version every two weeks," says Wolfe, who spearheaded the project. "It has become an invaluable tool for the American industry."

Nurturing Canadian culture in the shadow of the U.S. is a big job. Canadian consulates in the U.S. work with the arts promotion division of Foreign Affairs Canada, Canadian Heritage and International Trade Canada to promote Canadian artists and Canada's cultural sector, including the performing and visual arts, sound recording, new media and publishing, design and crafts, as well as film and television. For example, in the past year, the consulates have ensured a strong Canadian presence and visibility at the Sundance Film Festival, the San Francisco Gay & Lesbian Festival and the industry's most prestigious event, the Oscars. Annually, FAC supports the presence of key U.S. buyers at Canada's top festivals such as the Toronto International Film Festival and the Banff Television Festival.

In terms of trade, the Consulate in Los Angeles, in collaboration with Telefilm Canada and the provincial film commissions, arranged for 200 Canadian film industry professionals to attend the American Film Market in Santa Monica, California, in November for eight days of screenings and deal making. "The idea is to connect Canadian producers with the people who make decisions," says Jennifer Price, a consul and trade commissioner who organized the mission.

One of the producers who made sales there was Sherrie Johnson, whose company, da da kamera pictures



▲ Andy Jones (left) and William Hurt starred in *Rare Birds*, a popular film by Newfoundland's Pope Productions set in a remote Newfoundland outpost.

in Toronto, produced a comedy called *Wilby Wonderful*. Johnson says she sold the theatrical, broadcast and DVD rights to *Wilby* at the event. "That was incredibly important because U.S. sales drive sales in other international markets."

While it's common for Canadians to appear in American films, such as Ryan Reynolds's starring role in *Just Friends*, the reverse can also happen. In 2002, Newfoundland's Pope Productions made *Rare Birds*, a film set in a Newfoundland outpost with Canadian talent supporting the lead, American actor William Hurt. The film, which enjoyed an impressive 13-week run in Canada, has been sold to HBO. When influential movie critic Roger Ebert picked *Rare Birds* as a "DVD-of-the-week," it also sparked rentals of the film in the U.S.

"We are working our way through the American market," says senior producer Paul Pope. "It's extremely competitive." He distinguishes between the Hollywood majors, which have massive production and publicity budgets, and independent filmmakers in the U.S. who face many of the same obstacles as those in Canada. "We're all trying to break into an industry dominated by studios with



▲ Producer Paul Pope on the set of *Rare Birds*: "Before I die, I will make a film that breaks through in the U.S. I won't do it by second guessing the market, but by making an interesting film."

very deep pockets. And if you want to make a film about Canadians, it's even more challenging."

For Pope, success south of the border is important, but not at any cost. "Before I die, I will make a film that breaks through in the U.S.," he says. "I won't do it by second guessing the market, but by making an interesting film. That's what matters." 🍁

For more information about arts promotion in Canada see www.international.gc.ca/arts.

To learn more about the Consulate General of Canada – Los Angeles, visit www.losangeles.gc.ca.

Other sites of interest: www.popeproductions.com and www.dadakamera.com.



A decade after the North American Free Trade Agreement was signed, its effects are being felt throughout Canada's economy—and supermarkets.

In supermarkets and department stores from coast to coast, Canadian consumers are faced with almost endless choices. But few are likely to be aware that both the range and affordability of products are linked to Canada's membership in the world's largest trading arrangement.

That's been increasingly so in the decade since Canada, Mexico and the United States entered into the landmark North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA.

With a combined gross domestic product of US\$11 trillion among its members, representing about 30 percent of the world's total, NAFTA ranks as an economic and diplomatic success. The access it has provided to the vast U.S. market has made Canada the envy of trading nations around the world.

Not only does this year mark the 10th anniversary of NAFTA, it is also the 15th anniversary of its predecessor, the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. Both agreements have eliminated tariffs on most merchandise, set out clear-cut trading rules and created a larger, more integrated market. This makes North America one of the most efficient regions in the world in which to conduct business. Among the biggest winners of all have been Canadian consumers.

"Canadian shoppers win two ways," says John Curtis, the senior economist with International Trade Canada. "First, they have more choice because more goods and services are being imported. Second, prices are lower because NAFTA has made all three trading partners more competitive."

But it's not only consumers who benefit from freer flowing trade: it's the economy overall. Through NAFTA, Canada has consolidated its position as the largest trading partner of the U.S. In 2003, nearly 80 percent of Canada's total exports went south of the border, up from 71 percent in 1989. The importance of the U.S. as an export market has increased for most Canadian provinces and nearly every industry.

"NAFTA has been a powerful force for Canadian manufacturers," says Perrin Beatty, President of the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, adding that predictable trade rules and the elimination of tariffs have created greater demand in the U.S. for Canadian-made parts and merchandise. "While there was a period of

adjustment for manufacturers, NAFTA on balance has been enormously positive for Canada and has proven that we can compete."

The generally rosy trading relationship is marred by occasional trade disputes that can have a serious impact on affected sectors, as in the case of Canadian exports of softwood lumber.

Says International Trade Minister James Peterson, "Disputes are the exception rather than the rule. Ninety-five percent of Canada-U.S. trade is problem free." Nevertheless, during the recent visit to Canada by President George W. Bush, the two countries agreed to a joint study of the NAFTA process for settling disputes with a view to improving it.

Spurred on by NAFTA's success, Canada has been pursuing further trade opportunities throughout the hemisphere and beyond. Bilateral free trade agreements took effect in 1997 with Chile and in 2003 with Costa Rica. Canada is currently negotiating agreements with El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. As well, Canada, Mexico, the U.S. and the other 31 democratic countries of the hemisphere are now working toward establishing a Free Trade Area of the Americas.

Such agreements can only be good for Canada, with its relatively small population and the importance of trade for its economic prosperity.

"There is very little doubt that our country's fiscal health is linked to freer international trade and investment," Curtis adds. 🍁



Consumer boon: NAFTA has eliminated tariffs on most merchandise, set out clear-cut trading rules and created a larger, more integrated market, making North America one of the most efficient regions in the world in which to conduct business.

AMERICA'S CHANGING FABRIC

Frank Koller is U.S. correspondent for CBC Radio News, based in Washington, D.C. From 1985 to 1998 he covered Asia, reporting for the CBC from nearly every country in the region. In the U.S., Koller has covered everything from the 2000 voting recount crisis and the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, in New York City, to the recent election, which he provides perspective on here.

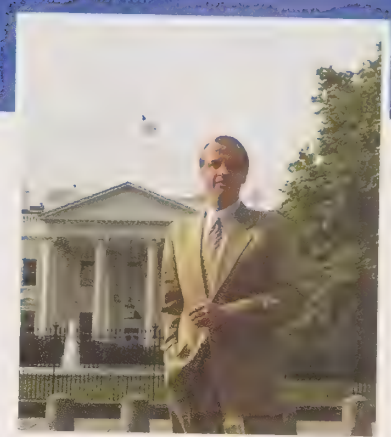


photo: courtesy of Frank Koller

Two poets.

Two hundred miles apart.

Two different worlds?

Dennis Williams lives in Neosho, Missouri, a small town in the Ozark Mountains. When he's not writing poetry for the Missouri Cowboy Poets Association, he builds antique chuckwagons with his wife, Donna.

Two hundred miles north, Michelle Boisseau teaches poetry at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. Boisseau is an established figure in the U.S. literary world, with dozens of national awards as evidence.

As I spent a year travelling across the United States covering the battle for the presidency, my meetings with these two poets encapsulated what the election was about—and foretold its outcome.

Relaxing in a lawn chair behind his farm workshop, Dennis Williams spoke of his support for President George W. Bush, using words like sincerity, trust and faith. Williams was far from happy with everything Bush was doing—at home or in Iraq—but overall, he felt the President was “handling ticklish situations quite well.”

Sitting on a kitchen chair in a house under renovation, Michelle Boisseau said she was “trying hard” not to be so angry about Bush. “Like a lot of people who read a lot

... I'm extremely unhappy about where the country's going ... among my friends, people who've read history, we think of Nazi Germany.” She never uttered John Kerry's name until I did.

Since the controversial 2000 election, much has been written about a so-called “divided America.” Red versus Blue states. Values in collision.

John Kenneth White, of Catholic University in Washington, D.C., put it nicely for me: the U.S. is divided between “those who like their morality absolute ... and those who like their morality writ small.”

But something else I saw at play in my two poets and across the country led me to believe early on that Bush would win again. (Canadian friends and colleagues worried I'd been drinking Republican Kool-Aid.)

Since September 11, the U.S. has been a country at war. Sons and daughters are dying in a conflict with no clear end in sight, a fear shared by both Republicans and Democrats. But even as Americans fiercely debated what should be done, there was a widespread yearning for more “normal” times. That most-human yearning can co-exist alongside and, I believe, even override passionate feelings about policies and philosophies. And Bush satisfied that yearning more than Kerry did.

One can argue that both campaigns exploited and distorted important public issues. But given U.S. society in 2004, Bush—not Kerry—had more “normal” on his side: opposition to gay marriage, support for troops under fire, support for “giving people back their money” (i.e. tax cuts).

And normal is comfortable. Of course, normal can change—and be changed. Sometimes for the better. Sometimes, as Bruce Cockburn wrote, “the trouble with normal is it always gets worse.”

The key to this election was that George W. Bush—and not John Kerry—provided a majority of Americans with a sense of comfort in uncertain times, even though many blamed Bush for the uncertainty!

Canadians need to accept that this seeming contradiction is now, post-9/11, stitched into the warp and woof of the U.S. psyche.

Michelle Boisseau's anger at Bush echoed loudly across the country. So did her lack of passion for Kerry.

Echoing louder (51 percent to 48 percent—just enough, as it turned out) were the comments of Dennis Williams's wife Donna in Neosho: “I think George Bush is the kind of guy I could invite over for coffee and chew the fat with...with John Kerry, I never get that feeling.”

Comfort. ♣

CBC Radio correspondent Frank Koller: George W. Bush provided a majority of Americans with a sense of comfort in uncertain times

SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES

With greater economic, academic and cultural ties, Canada and Mexico are two mice that together could roar.

Despite sharing the same continent, for many years Canada and Mexico were like two countries the global village had forgotten. As two mice separated by an elephant, they appeared almost incapable of detecting each other over the bigger presence in the middle.

Or so it seemed until a decade ago, when Canada joined the trade negotiations gathering steam between its two closest neighbours and signed on to what would become the North American Free Trade Agreement. As Canada and Mexico celebrate the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations they find themselves ever more closely linked.

There's no doubt that the two countries are moving quickly to make up for lost time, especially through NAFTA and resulting initiatives, which

have spurred not only trade and investment, but tourism, academic exchanges, scientific collaboration and interest in each other's culture.

Ottawa photographer Valerie Burton got a taste of the latter during an exhibition of her photographs depicting Indigenous festivals in both countries at the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City in the fall that was sponsored by Foreign Affairs Canada. "It's been overwhelmingly popular," says Burton, who took the photographs over the past 10 years. "Mexicans are totally fascinated by the Canadian images."

Especially intriguing, she says, was the striking similarity between traditions adopted by Indigenous peoples in Mexico and in Canada, including the fact that, although separated by thousands of kilometres, they chose the same motifs for their rituals, such as using smoke as a communications device and wearing deer heads in traditional hunting dances.

"There is a lot of common ground between Canada and Mexico in terms of Indigenous culture," she says. "Of course, Aboriginal people don't even consider the border; to them it's all one nation."

Burton's findings are only a small slice of the growing cultural interconnection between the two countries. Canadian entertainment icons such as Cirque du Soleil, Diana Krall, Nelly Furtado and Avril Lavigne have performed to large audiences in Mexico. In 2002, Canada was



▲ Historic visit: Mexican President Vicente Fox addressed a joint session of Parliament in October, speaking on a partnership with Canada in "NAFTA-plus" and Canadian employment opportunities for Mexicans.

named country of honour at the prestigious International Cervantino Festival in Guanajuato, Mexico. The following year Canada took centre stage again at Cervantino when the National Arts Centre Orchestra's North American tour culminated in the festival's closing night show.

Of course, the biggest impact of the trade agreement has been in the economic sphere. Canadian investment in Mexico has tripled since 1994, reaching \$2.8 billion in 2003; today some 1,400 Canadian companies operate in Mexico.

Mexico is now Canada's most important merchandise export market in Latin America, and Canada is on the way to becoming Mexico's second most important economic partner.

"I think for a long time both countries have ignored the obvious," says John Kirk, a professor of Spanish at Dalhousie University. He recently organized a series of well-attended lectures on Mexico in Halifax that featured former Mexico City mayor and presidential



Common cultural ground: (left to right) Canadian photographer Valerie Burton, at the exhibition of her photos in Mexico City, stands with Gaëtan Lavertu, Canada's Ambassador to Mexico, and his wife Donate.



▲ Flurry of agreements: (left to right) President Vicente Fox and Prime Minister Paul Martin witness the signing of an agreement by Mexico Foreign Secretary Luis Ernesto Derbez Bautista and Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew.

candidate Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas. "Suddenly it's as if a light is going on and we're realizing how strategically important we are to each other."

The light bulb of recognition shone brightest in October during Mexican President Vicente Fox's historic visit to Canada. The former Coca-Cola executive made no secret of the importance he attached to the three-day trip, bringing with him a delegation that included seven cabinet ministers, business leaders and a large contingent of media.

Prime Minister Paul Martin reciprocated by inviting Mr. Fox to speak to a joint session of Parliament, in which the Mexican leader quickly got down to business. He wanted Canada as a partner in the "NAFTA-plus" project, which would see the three countries further integrate their economies. He also asked Canada to increase Canadian employment opportunities for Mexicans in sectors like construction and tourism to build on the success of the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program, which is in its 30th year and brings more than 10,000 Mexican farm workers north annually.

"The time has come to reflect on the best way to build a new community of North America," he

told Parliamentarians. "I am also convinced that Canada and Mexico have much to contribute to the design and operation of this regional cooperation and integration scheme."

That evening at a gala dinner he hosted for President Fox, Mr. Martin echoed the sentiment. "I believe it is a clear signal that the Canada-Mexico partnership is no longer a surprising novelty in North America, but rather an enduring presence and a fundamental part of the domestic and international agendas of our countries."

A flurry of agreements were signed, the most important of which is the Canada-Mexico Partnership, a commitment penned by the leaders themselves to explore economic and political links, and to look for opportunities to expand investment and trade. Mr. Fox also announced the opening of a consulate in Leamington, Ontario, in recognition of the concentration of temporary workers in that farming community.

The Mexican leader is looking for a firm and enthusiastic commitment to work toward closer integration within NAFTA. He believes this is necessary to stave off growing competition from Asia and especially China.

Such an opportunity will not last, say Ken Frankel and John Graham, two

respected Latin American specialists, who in a recent article in *The Globe and Mail* called for Canada to seize the opportunity offered by Mexico's entreaties for closer integration and strategic alliance building. "If Canada dithers in this opportunity to collaborate with Mexico, our political leverage in the hemisphere will dwindle further," they wrote. "Mexico will not continue to wait to find international alliances."

Kirk agrees. It all comes down to the elephant in the middle. He points out that with the U.S. absorbing the vast majority of Canadian and Mexican exports, the two countries on their own are too economically dependent to have much clout in the three-way relationship. Working together, they have a greater chance to exert influence on a wide range of issues.

And on an increasing number of matters—from policies on Iraq and the Kyoto Accord to open borders and Mr. Martin's goal of establishing an "L20" group of world leaders—the two countries are in lockstep.

"I'm convinced this relationship is going to get closer and stronger because it has to," says Kirk. "What we have in common is economic survival." ♣

MOBILIZING EDUCATION

A tri-country program crosses borders, language barriers and institutions to enhance teaching and learning in North America.

When Canadian student Glenn Mutsemaker showed up for class at a small university in central Mexico last year, he had only rudimentary Spanish and little knowledge of the country.

But for the 25-year-old interior design major from St. Albert, Alberta, the initial “nerve-racking” introduction gave way to excitement, as he picked up the language and made new friends. Soon, he discovered something of himself—and of Canada’s place on the continent.

“It’s life changing in ways you don’t even notice at first,” he says of his semester at the Universidad de Guanajuato, five hours north of Mexico City. Staying with a local family in the small town, for example, he found a different world, where people were happy living a “pared-down lifestyle” in close proximity to others.

Mutsemaker is convinced that his experience will make him a better interior designer when he graduates from Mount Royal College in Calgary next year. Already, he’s deepened his understanding of North America. “Even though we are so different, it always shines through how much the same we are.”

Mutsemaker’s experience is what education officials from Canada, the



Life changing: Student Glenn Mutsemaker (centre, shown on a bus trip with classmates,) found a semester at the Universidad de in Guanajuato in Mexico helped him to discover something of himself—and of Canada’s place on the continent.

United States and Mexico had in mind when they set up the Program for North American Mobility in Higher Education in 1995. The program finances groups of colleges and universities—two each from each country—to collaborate on theme-based projects built around student exchanges and curriculum development by faculty. This allows participants to cross borders, overcome language barriers and attend foreign institutions, both public and private, with a view to enhancing teaching and learning in North America.

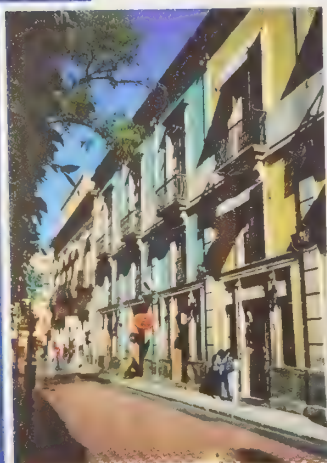
In the past nine years, more than 1,000 Canadian students from 80 colleges and universities have participated in projects linking them with counterparts in Mexico and the U.S., in areas of study ranging from agribusiness and architecture to multicultural perspectives in education.

In a recent evaluation, the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration, a continent-wide education network, gave the mobility program top marks

for enhancing student learning, preparing young people for the global economy and developing cross-border cooperation among institutions.

“If a country wants to be a key player in the international arena, its people need key skills and international experience,” says Francisco Marmelejo, executive director of the 250-member consortium.

The Canadian government, through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), contributes \$1.6 million annually to the program. This enables nearly 200 Canadian students each year to undertake part of their studies in another North American country, with an equal number of foreign students coming to Canada. At the end of their study period, Canadian students return home with valuable international expertise, while earning full academic credit from their home institution. Says Christiane Boulanger, coordinator of the program at HRSDC, “These experiences are an excellent indicator for future employers of



Street scene in Guanajuato, Mexico.

students' ability to adapt to new circumstances—an important skill in today's global workplace."

At Mount Royal College, which has a long history of looking south and is a partner in five projects financed under the mobility program, President David Marshall describes the exchange program as "critical" to Canada's future. "The kids who are coming to us up in Canada are the ones who will be the business partners of Albertans 10 years from now," he says.

One of them is Julieta Rojas Pacheco, a 25-year-old from the Universidad de Guadalajara who spent last fall at the Calgary college studying eco-tourism.

"My Dad told me, if you want your country to be a first-world country, you must be a first-world person," Rojas Pacheco says. "I thought it would be cool to have some international experience."

Mount Royal journalism graduate Todd Hurman—now a reporter in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia—looks back on his mobility program semester at the Universidad de Colima in Mexico in 2003 as "an eye-popping" journey.

"I'm seeing the effects now, even more than then," he says, citing the self-confidence and perspective he gained from living in another culture. "The benefits of living outside of your own 'box' and familiar surroundings can only enhance your world view."

What makes the mobility program unique is the collaboration among educational institutions. That's no mean feat.

A case in point is a group involving Mount Royal and five other institutions that was set up six years ago to



Journalism graduate Todd Hurman: "The benefits of living outside of your own 'box' and familiar surroundings can only enhance your world view."

integrate technology and design education. "We understood from the beginning there would be huge obstacles to getting six schools from three countries onto the same page," says Mount Royal interior design instructor Frank Harks. The partners initially met face-to-face, he says, a strategy that paid dividends for the participating students and faculty.

"We don't live in an isolated environment," Harks says. "What an incredible opportunity to open up doors for students who don't understand what internationalization means."

Student Glenn Mutsemaker is even more direct about what the experience of living and studying in Mexico taught him: "No matter what," he says, "just take a chance and go." 🍁

For details of the North American Mobility Program and other educational opportunities visit www.hrsdc.gc.ca.

See the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration's evaluation at www.conahcec.org.

Scholarships build understanding

Michael Hawes well understands Canada's lament at being seen as a "blip" on the U.S. radar screen and the lack of understanding Canadians often have for U.S. values and views. But the Queen's University political scientist is working hard to bridge the gap.

Spending a sabbatical year in 1999 in a research chair at the University of California at Berkeley sponsored by the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program, Hawes shattered stereotypes about the cross-border relationship. When invited to lecture to California bankers during an electricity brown-out, he shocked them with data on their state's energy reliance on Alberta.

"They don't have a sense of how important Canada is to them," says Hawes, who has since become the executive director of the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program, based in Ottawa. His California experience underscores why the scholarship—part of the prestigious international academic exchange established by the U.S. Government in 1946 in the name of Senator William J. Fulbright and extended to Canada in 1990—has become a fast-growing binational program aimed at enhancing mutual understanding between the two countries.

Sponsored by Foreign Affairs Canada, the U.S. Department of State, the private sector and academic institutions from both countries and known formally as the Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States, the program has provided awards to more than 600 students and prominent scholars on both sides of the border. Recipients get between US\$15,000 and \$25,000 to spend from one semester to an academic year at a post-secondary institution in the other country, studying such contemporary issues as trade, health and security.

Visiting scholars fully integrate into the life of the university and the local community, with lectures, special events and other contacts to maximize interaction and insight. The program also offers cross-border exchanges for grade- and high-school teachers, mid-career professionals and students.

"We provide an opportunity to physically live, work and function in another country on an everyday basis," says Hawes. "It's a window onto another world that isn't available in any other way."

For more information see www.fulbright.ca.

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Ceremony, celebration and change

For 10 years, Valerie Burton, a fine art and commercial photographer in Ottawa, has studied Indigenous cultures in Canada and Mexico by documenting their festivals on film. Her contemporary photographs were exhibited in the fall at the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City. The show, called *Ceremonia, Celebración y Cambio*, reveals the common ground between Indigenous peoples in Mexico and Canada through the similar motifs used in their rituals, the clash of past and present, and the influence of modern technology and tourism.

- 1 *It's the Real Thing*, Kinki, Yucatan, 1994
- 1 *Traditional Tea*, Holman, NWT, 2004
- 2 *La Diablita*, Oaxaca, 1997
- 2 *Dressed in Sister's Parka*, Holman, NWT, 2004
- 3 *Skulls*, Oaxaca, 1997
- 3 *Totem Mask*, Skidegate, Haida Gwaii, BC, 2004
- 4 *The Little Tyrant*, El 20, Campeche, 1997
- 4 *Four Kids on a Quad*, Holman, NWT, 2004



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to the tsunami
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Our cover

University of Alberta professor Wenran Jiang rolls the ball in the lion's mouth for good luck at the gate marking the entrance to Edmonton's Chinatown. The gate was built by the people of Harbin, China, where Jiang comes from.

photo: CP Photo Canada

This page

A Sri Lankan fisherman casts his net into the sea at Cheddali Palayam, east of Colombo, one week following the tsunami that killed more than 30,000 people in the country.

photo: CP (Rafiq Maqbool)

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CANADA IN A SHIFTING WORLD

David Crane is an award-winning Canadian writer on economic, political and environmental issues whose column appears in a number of publications, including *The Toronto Star*. He is currently writing a new book that sets out what Canada should do to be a successful society in the new global economy, with the working title of *Big Canada or Little Canada: The Choice is Ours*, to be published by Penguin Books early next year.

In the second half of the 20th century, Canada enjoyed remarkable influence in the world. But that era is over, and Canada is now faced with the critical challenge of repositioning itself as an active participant in a much different world. Finding that new role is important, because Canadians want to influence the kind of planet we will inhabit in the years ahead. Unless Canada finds a productive role in the global community, it could become irrelevant and lose much of its sovereignty as an increasingly dependent satellite of the United States.

At the end of the Second World War, Canada emerged as an important member of the group of allies that had defeated Nazism and its Japanese equivalent. Canadians had played an impressive role in wartime and were ready to play an equally important role in building peace in the post-war world, helping to create the United Nations and the Bretton Woods Institutions (the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). Likewise, Canada was active in creating the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and made an important contribution to peace and stability through its armed forces and diplomatic capabilities.

Canadians served under the UN flag in the Korean War. And the international role of Canada was highlighted in 1957 when Lester B. Pearson was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in ending the Suez crisis and introducing a new peacekeeping role for the UN. But while Canada continues to make an important contribution in world affairs—based, for example, on its membership in the G7/G8—its influence has declined for a number of reasons.

For one, Canada has not maintained its military and aid capacities, so its ability to respond to global challenges has diminished. For another, the U.S. has changed; it no longer needs Canadian airspace for defence and its

priorities have shifted to the war against terrorism and to dealing with the emergence of major new powers such as China and India. Finally, the decision of major nations that had operated closed economies to open themselves to the world has radically changed the trajectory of future global development.

The next several decades will see remarkable shifts in world power and activity. The U.S. National Intelligence Council, in a recent report called *Mapping the Global Future*, warns that “at no time since the formation of the Western alliance system in 1949 have the shape and nature of international arrangements been in such a state of flux.”

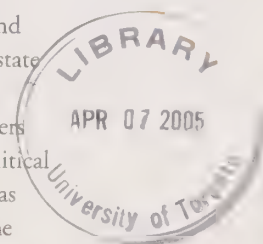
The likely emergence of China and India and others as new major global players will transform the geopolitical landscape, the report says, “with impacts potentially as dramatic as those in the previous two centuries. In the same way that commentators refer to the 1900s as the American Century, the 21st century may be seen as a time when Asia, led by China and India, comes into its own,” it adds. “The very magnitude and speed of change resulting from a globalizing world—apart from its precise character—will be a defining feature of the world out to 2020.” Globalization in the 21st century is more likely to have an Asian face than an American one, as China and India boost their investments in education and research and development, building their own multinationals and expanding their economic reach.

What will this mean for Canada? In international bodies, the country’s voting power and role may diminish. UN reform could lead to a new Security Council that would be more reflective of a 21st-century world with, for example, new seats for Japan, India, Germany, Brazil and South



photo: Danielle Lépine, F&W

Writer David Crane: The next several decades will see remarkable shifts in world power and activity.



A new place for Asia

"The likely emergence of China and India, as well as others, as new major global players—similar to the advent of a united Germany in the 19th century and a powerful United States in the early 20th century—will transform the geopolitical landscape, with impacts potentially as dramatic as those in the previous two centuries. In the same way that commentators refer to the 1900s as the American Century, the 21st century may be seen as the time when Asia, led by China and India, comes into its own."

U.S. National Intelligence Council

Percentage share of world GDP (in terms of purchasing power parity)

	2004	2050
United States	27.2	18.6
China	16.2	27.4
India	6.1	17.5
Russia	3.4	3.1
Brazil	3.4	4.3
Japan	9.3	3.2
Germany	5.6	2.3
United Kingdom	4.0	2.0

Source: Goldman Sachs estimates

Redrawing the map

"...how we mentally map the world in 2020 will change radically. The 'arriviste' powers—China, India and perhaps others such as Brazil and Indonesia—have the potential to render obsolete the old categories of East and West, North and South, aligned and non-aligned, developed and developing. Traditional geographic groupings will increasingly lose salience in international relations."

U.S. National Intelligence Council

Number of cars owned (thousands)

	2005	2020	2030	2040	2050
United States	148,656	176,932	195,651	214,713	233,174
China	19,251	131,632	273,760	423,491	514,041
India	9,039	38,644	114,812	324,209	610,902
Brazil	27,917	60,026	95,545	130,973	147,343
Russia	27,127	57,517	74,086	78,480	75,441
Japan	56,780	60,711	60,304	57,476	54,344
Germany	45,776	49,549	49,371	48,767	47,130

Source: Goldman Sachs BRICs Model Projections

Africa. Canada's voting power at the IMF and World Bank could be reduced as other nations gain a larger share. The G7/G8 could be replaced by a new entity that might exclude Canada, which would have to work much harder to make its concerns felt and influence the future course of the planet.

But Canada's capacity to play the global role that Canadians aspire to will depend on many factors, including creating and allocating the resources that allow it to do so. This means Canada has to be an economic, social and environmental success at home. In particular, Canada has to make the transition to a knowledge-based society, with a high level of literacy and capacity for innovation.

The country's military spending will continue to be important, not only for the surveillance of its own coastlines and airways—including, increasingly, the Arctic—but also to be a credible member of NATO and capable of supplying peacekeeping or other forces around the world. If Canada is to have credibility, it must be able to back words with deeds.

At the same time, Canada must improve its capacity as a global problem solver. This will mean allocating resources and ideas to helping solve world challenges, such as achieving the Millennium Development Goals, addressing the long-term issue of climate change, dealing with public health and infectious diseases, and assisting in the building of institutions and capacities in the developing world. It will also mean working to strengthen the institutions of global governance, which will be even more important in a world of 9 billion people than they are in a world of 6.4 billion people. Prime Minister Paul Martin's proposal for an active L20 to provide leadership on global governance is an important contribution. At the same time, Canada will need to enhance its diplomatic capabilities, working with coalitions of like-minded nations on key issues, as it did on the landmines treaty and the International Criminal Court.

No one can accurately say what the future will bring, as we cannot predict the inevitable surprises that will occur. But we do know that the next 50 years will see challenges and that Canadians want to be actively engaged in helping to address those challenges. This is why it is so important today that we identify the most effective means by which we can be global players of influence in the years ahead. ♦

David Crane can be reached at
crane@interlog.com.

ASIA IN FOCUS

Reflected in the Canadian response to the tsunami and reinforced by recent visits to the region by Prime Minister Paul Martin and a high-level trade mission, Canada is fully committed to engaging in Asia Pacific.

Wenran Jiang is leading an ideal Asian-Canadian existence. Born in Harbin, a large industrial city in northeastern China, Jiang immigrated to Canada when, as a doctoral student in Ottawa in the mid-1980s, he met and married a Canadian. He moved to Edmonton to find the city twinned with Harbin, its Chinatown featuring a Harbin Road (a counterpart to Edmonton Road, the main airport thoroughfare in Harbin) and graced with a ceremonial gate constructed by the people of Harbin as a gift to their sister city. Jiang's nine-year-old son, Hadrian, attends a primary school where he is taught in English and Mandarin in one of the most extensive public foreign-language programs on the continent. Son Tristan, five, will start there in the fall. The family home is what Jiang calls an "East meets West compromise": Chinese antiques and carved panels mix with contemporary furniture, all arranged according to *feng shui*, the mystical Chinese art promoting energy and balance.

"In Canada, I couldn't be closer to home," quips Jiang, 48, an associate professor of political science at the University of Alberta. He perpetuates this East-West balance as a specialist on East Asia focusing on foreign policy, human rights and development studies. He moves easily between his new home and Asia, an observer, advocate and instrument of closer ties with the region. He is especially an expert on Canada's relations with China in the energy sector, the subject of recent conferences he's organized between the two countries.

Jiang is an example of the expanding personal, economic, political, cultural and developmental links between Canada and Asia Pacific. Reflected in the outpouring of sympathy and generosity following the devastating Boxing Day tsunami and reinforced by recent visits to Asia by Prime Minister Paul Martin and a high-level trade mission, Canada is fully committed to engaging in the region.

"Asia is no longer foreign; in many respects, we are an integral part of it, and it is part of us," says David Mulroney, Assistant Deputy Minister of Bilateral Relations



photo: CP Sean Connor

East-West balance: University of Alberta professor Wenran Jiang and his wife Tanya Casperson with their sons Hadrian, 9, and Tristan, 5

at Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC). "This is a region where economic interests intersect with security and personal interests to strategically affect Canadian interests...Engaging with Asia Pacific is not optional; it is key to our prosperity and security, especially in a globalized world."

A strategic involvement

Canada has long-standing and long-range relations with the vast and diverse Asia Pacific, which stretches from Afghanistan to Tahiti and from Mongolia to New Zealand. Historical ties were based on both immigration, with the early Chinese, Japanese and South Asians who came to build the Canadian Pacific Railway, and trade, beginning with a booming export to China of wild ginseng by Jesuit missionaries in Quebec in the early 1700s. Links with Asia Pacific have grown, with the region accounting, for example, for half of all new immigrants to Canada in the last decade.

Today Canada is focused on the century's emerging powers, China and India, as well as on deepening relations

with Japan. Beyond these priority relationships, Canada continues to engage with the rest of Asia as a founding and active member of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and through constructive interaction with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), a major market for Canadian outward investment and partner in the campaign against terrorism. Canada also has strong ties with countries such as South Korea and Australia.

Mr. Martin, travelling in the region in January to express solidarity with the governments and populations of countries affected by the tsunami as well as to advance Canadian interests there both bilaterally and multilaterally, forged a number of historic agreements and declarations to further ties. These include a Canada-Japan Economic Framework to establish a comprehensive economic partnership between the two countries; a commitment by China to grant Approved Destination Status, allowing Chinese tourists to visit Canada more easily; and discussions with India on improving global governance and institutions. "The world's power patterns are changing," Mr. Martin said. "Asia is a dynamic region that holds tremendous opportunity."

Opportunity...

The numbers speak for themselves. Within a generation, three out of the world's four largest economies will be

Japan, China and India. By 2020, the gross domestic product of northeast Asia alone as a percentage of global GDP is expected to eclipse that of the United States.

A mission led by International Trade Minister Jim Peterson in January to Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong, which included representatives from 280 Canadian companies, further developed commercial ties with China. More than 100 agreements were signed between Canadian and Chinese companies. "With China redefining global trade, a China business plan is no longer an option for Canadian companies; it's a must," said Mr. Peterson, who will visit India this spring.

Canadians are bullish about economic prospects in Asia and feel that stronger ties are vital to the well-being of this country. Those surveyed in a poll conducted last summer for the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada said that Asia represents a region of dynamic growth and an opportunity for Canadian businesses and investment. More than 70 percent said that the Government of Canada should promote increased trade with Asia, while 73 percent believe that Canada should diversify its trade to be less dependent on the U.S.

"The survey underscores the value that Canadians place on building stronger economic ties with Asian countries," says John Wiebe, President and CEO of the foundation. "Canadian firms that are skilled at delivering high-end services such as architectural and environmental design, education, financial services, software and telecom are succeeding in Asia. More can do the same."

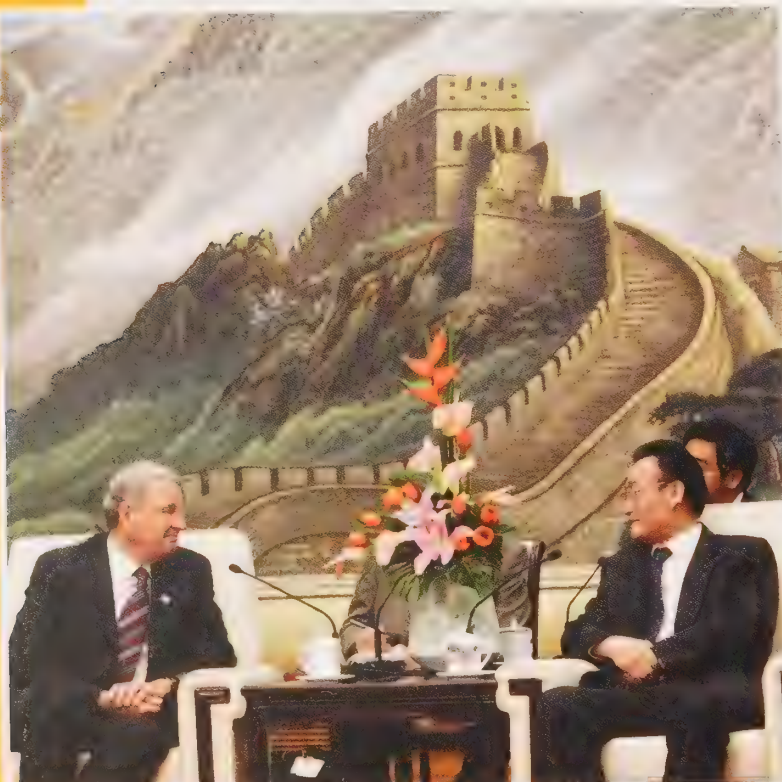
However, succeeding in Asian markets requires preparation and commitment, says Ken Sunquist, Assistant Deputy Minister of the World Markets Branch for International Trade Canada. "Companies need to be prepared for the long haul in establishing relationships and building solid networks in Asia," he says, adding that the region is not homogenous. "Canadian companies need solid business plans that recognize both the challenges and opportunities in a specific market and build on the strengths of the relationship between the two countries."

...and challenge

The region is equally important to security. Canada is working cooperatively with countries there to address threats posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, ballistic missiles and terrorism.

Canada actively advocates non-proliferation, is helping to build counterterrorism capacity and supports good governance initiatives throughout the region, including the promotion of human rights and judicial training as well as election monitoring and voter education in countries such as Indonesia.

photo: Dave Chan, PMO



Advancing Canadian interests: Prime Minister Paul Martin meets with Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the National People's Congress, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.



Development success story: A laboratory worker at Medigloves Ltd. in Thailand, a country that has advanced from being a recipient of aid to becoming a full economic partner with Canada.

A good case study of the Canadian strategy on security and governance is in Afghanistan. Canada is active in the country on diplomacy, development and defence fronts—the so-called 3-D approach—in an effort to restore stability, support growth and help build democracy there. Canada contributed close to \$24 million to the Afghanistan presidential election last October, which was considered a watershed in the country's transition toward a democratic, self-sustaining state.

Development partnership

Over the last 25 years, a number of Asian countries receiving assistance from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) have made significant progress. In Malaysia and Thailand, for example, health, nutrition, life expectancy and other indicators of human development have improved to the point that the countries are graduating to becoming donors in their own right.

"It's been a great success story, a shift from these countries being recipients of aid to becoming full economic partners," says Bob Johnston, Director General of Strategic Planning for Asia for CIDA. However, he cautions that there are still large pockets of poverty in the region. "The bottom line reality is that 60 percent of the world's poor live in Asia...Overall the numbers are still quite intimidating."

The tsunami disaster galvanized Canadians into focusing on the region in particular and on humanitarian assistance more generally, not just in times of crisis but for the long term.

"The crisis has presented an important opportunity for building relationships and solidarity among communities that should be supported," Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew told the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting on the aftermath of the disaster in Jakarta in January. "The international community will need to remain engaged

in the region over the longer term...Canada will be there—as a full partner—for as long as it takes."

The tsunami was "a tipping point," says Paul Evans, Acting Director of the Liu Institute for Global Issues, "flushing money into the region on an unprecedented scale" and bringing international attention to deep-seated conflicts in countries such as Sri Lanka and Indonesia. "The seal is broken," he says, adding that the new eyes may bring new players and a new context for the internal issues.

A role for Canada

How Canada should and can play a role more broadly in the region is a topic of intense discussion. In China, for example, it is important to make certain that Canada capitalizes on the country's tremendous economic growth, while ensuring that China is a responsible member of the international community. "Canadian commercial activities in Asia are only one part of the picture," Evans says. "I'm worried about the single lens that's being put on the relationship; we can't be active in Asia without a social, security and political focus as well as an economic approach."

Wenran Jiang, who worked on a dairy farm for five years during the Cultural Revolution and led student protests in Ottawa in 1989 against the Chinese government's actions in Tiananmen Square, says that Canada must work with the Chinese to try to have an influence on the country in a strategic way. A "spotlight approach," he says, will not work.

"There shouldn't be any question of whether we engage; the question is how we engage China," he says. "We can try to assert our influence effectively to help China be more open-minded, more of a society based

Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew surveys the tsunami damage in Phuket, Thailand, in January: "The international community will need to remain engaged in the region over the long term. Canada will be there—as a full partner—for as long as it takes."



photo: PA



Cross cultural play: Team Canada's Cassie Campbell closes in on Team China goaltender Hong Guo at the 2004 World Women's Ice Hockey Championship in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

on the rule of law, more gradually moving toward a democracy." Canada is especially a model of a multicultural, tolerant society, he says. "China would very much like to learn about Canada, as much as Canadians want to learn about China."

Indeed, links with Asia Pacific bring a wealth of "human capital," adds Reeta Chowdhari Tremblay, a professor of political science at Concordia University in Montreal. Her university has established China and India as priorities, encouraging academic exchanges, research collaboration and access to distance education with the two countries. Canada can especially benefit from dialogue with India, she says, in areas such as parliamentary democracy, collective versus individual rights, Aboriginal issues and the relationship between justice, law and politics.

The region is also the demographic heart of Islam and thus affords significant links to the Muslim world. The majority of the world's Muslims live in Asia—Indonesia is the largest Islamic country and Bangladesh the second largest—making Canadian ties with the region critical to better understand and engage in a dialogue with Muslim communities.

Personal ties

Today one in three Canadians has family links in Asia. These Canadians are increasingly involved in foreign policy as citizens, business people, politicians, scholars and students to help Canada build bridges with the region. But that significant population also means that Asian issues resonate on the domestic political scene.

Tremblay, who comes from Kashmir in northwest India and married a francophone Canadian, says she "walks in

and out of the two cultures very easily." However, Tremblay says, many Asian immigrants can bring with them links to separatist movements and internal conflicts, as well as sensitivities about long-standing cultural and class norms that clash with the Canadian experience. Their children, meanwhile, will be much more able to promote positive links to their homelands.

"The next generation is going to be different," she says. "These kids who are growing up here, they're trilingual, they're going to be the future."

Responding to these trends is vital. The Speech from the Throne in British Columbia in February emphasized a role for the province as a gateway to Asia Pacific, a "golden opportunity" to forge new relationships in terms of trade, investment, visitors and cultures. It announced education measures such as the promotion in schools of Punjabi, Mandarin and other Asia Pacific languages.

Future imperative

The importance of Asian languages—and the trade, cultural and other ties they bring—was driven home in a provocative way when *The Globe and Mail* filled the front page of a Saturday edition last fall with 20 Chinese characters in a type size usually reserved for war or moon landings accompanied by the English: "If you can't read these words, better start brushing up...." In the largest single undertaking in the newspaper's history, three dozen journalists put together a comprehensive portrait of contemporary China. Explained Edward Greenspon, Editor in Chief of the newspaper, "Make no mistake about it: China is rising."

Jiang says that although the benefits of greater connections with the region are significant, they will not come without work, sacrifice and some adjustments. He passed up a career opportunity, for example, so that his son could enter the Chinese-English bilingual program in Edmonton three years ago. He moved his family to a new neighbourhood within an easy distance of the school—and since then has endured the frustrations of a child learning a difficult new language.

"It's a lot of pain, a lot of me helping him, a lot of struggle," Jiang explains. "But for Hadrian, this is about a lot more than cultural identity. It will help him and others to have that language. It's a reality that we have to cope with." ❁

Find out more about Canada's relations with Asia Pacific and subscribe to a monthly newsletter showcasing Canadian people, business, development assistance and culture in the region at www.international.gc.ca/asia-pacific.

Lasting bonds

When the University of British Columbia found that it had more than 3,000 former students as well as research and development ties in one community, it decided to open an office there.

The location? Hong Kong—just one of many cities throughout Asia Pacific where UBC is deeply networked through academic partnerships, research initiatives and active alumni.

"We hold a very vital link for Canada in this region," says Kenneth McGillivray, Director of UBC International, which develops global alliances for the university. "We have six decades of work there."

While governments forge the broad context in which trade, political and cultural exchange takes place between nations, it is ultimately a myriad of people-to-people links that carry the current between societies.

Cities such as Montreal, Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver are home to substantial populations from China, India, South Korea, Vietnam, Taiwan and elsewhere, new Canadians with trade, professional and cultural ties to their countries of origin.

With some 4,000 international students, many from Asia, UBC has institutionalized such connections. On campus is Korea House, a residence for 200 Korean students created through an alliance with the South Korean government. UBC is trying to build a quadrant of such facilities, explains McGillivray, noting that "very strong and lasting relationships" with Asia Pacific have strengthened the university.

Students from Asia make up some 40 percent of the 53,000 international post-secondary students in Canada, according to Statistics Canada. They bring considerable wealth to this country and carry Canadian knowledge and personal associations home with them.

UBC's Pacific coast location has been a benefit in this regard. Yet while there are 353,000 residents of east and southeastern Asian origin in Vancouver, Toronto's population of 488,000 from the same region can reach out to Asia Pacific just as readily.

"Some of our people here export back overseas," comments Ken Ng, an immigrant from Hong Kong and a family physician who is chair of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Markham, the booming north Toronto suburb peppered



photo: CP (Steve White)

▲ Signs of change: Asian Canadians have brought a unique mix of culture and commerce to Canada, such as this stretch of Toronto's Chinatown.

with new Asian malls and housing. Links with mainland China are deepening, notes Ng, with the ease in immigration from there.

Conversely, it was with tremendous difficulty that many of Canada's 210,000 people of Vietnamese origin came, largely in the seventies and eighties. But Phung Van Hanh looks at his community of some 40,000 Vietnamese Canadians in Montreal with great pride today.

"We have many engineers, we have about 10,000 technicians in computer work," says Phung, former president of the Vietnamese Canadian Federation. "The situation is better day after day," he says, adding that the province of Quebec, home to 60,000 Vietnamese in all, was an immediate fit for many who arrived in this country with fluency in French.

The diversity within Canada's Asian communities creates a breadth of important bonds with societies that Canadians need to better understand. Immigrants from Bangladesh and Malaysia, for example, bring links to the Muslim world, while those from places such as Japan facilitate cultural exchange with their home countries.

Connections with the region have especially proliferated in the last decade,



photo: CP (Keith Grasse)

▲ Family links: Although she was born a Canadian, two-year-old Ushmi Kabir raises her hand to take the citizenship oath along with her mother Nasima (right) and big sister Lamia at a ceremony in St. John's, Newfoundland, in 2004. The family is originally from Bangladesh.

says Willy Lumbanraja, President of the Indonesian Canadian Community Association in Mississauga, Ontario. "Before that, Indonesians didn't know a lot about Canada."

They are learning quickly. And while the some 4,500 Indonesians in the Toronto area carry much knowledge of their culture, it is in Canada that they seek to use it, Lumbanraja remarks. "Most of us say we want to stay here, especially the children."

HELPING CANADIANS IN NEED

The magnitude of the Boxing Day tsunami that slammed the coasts of 12 nations across the Indian Ocean prompted an unprecedented effort by Canada's Consular Affairs Bureau to bring order into chaos, assisting Canadians in the region and those concerned about them back home.

THE CALL FROM CANADA

In the early hours of December 26, as reports of the tsunami disaster began to reach the media, Canadians worried about friends and relatives in the region began calling the Consular Affairs Bureau's 24-hour helpline in Ottawa.

The calls came in to the Operations Centre, a sprawling office tucked in a high-security corner of Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC). The crew of two manning the phone lines on Christmas night had logged 35 pages of calls by morning. A regular night shift usually

produces four pages of calls.

The concern of callers heightened as hours and then days passed without word. Many reported the names of people who might have been on the washed-out beachfronts or elsewhere in the affected countries. Others inquired about relatives, friends, neighbours or colleagues travelling

somewhere in Asia, fearing that fate had put them in the path of the waves.

As the calls increased, Serge Paquette, Director of Emergency Services for FAC, drew on off-duty staff from the Consular Bureau to answer the phones.

By the morning of December 27, the crisis centre—an inner circle of work stations unused since the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York City—buzzed with activity, the division's 14 operations officers augmented by hundreds of staff from across FAC and International Trade Canada manning a bank of 40 phones around the clock.

"I knew it was an overwhelming volume of work and that it was important for Canadians to get through to someone," says Amy Galigan, a political officer in FAC's Eastern Europe and Balkans Division who came forward to work for six days in the centre. "To be able to help people in times of distress is something I don't get to do everyday."

More than 100,000 calls were logged in the two weeks following the tsunami. Over time the focus shifted to phoning people back to check for news of those missing or to collect additional details for their files. Sometimes it was the person feared lost who answered the phone, having returned safely from a resort hundreds of kilometres away from the catastrophe. The person's name was crossed off the list and the news transmitted to any others who had been concerned.

Galigan, who made many such "happy calls," says, "I've never had people say 'bless you' so many times in my life."

Nevertheless, out of the 3,948 people originally on the centre's list, at the time of printing 15 are confirmed dead, 5 who were clearly in the region are still missing, and 7 who might

have been there remain unaccounted for. Friends or relatives of the missing have provided the RCMP with dental records, x-rays and DNA samples such as hair from brushes to be compared with forensic data from 5,000 unidentified bodies across the region. Experts will need months to complete the task.

The Consular Affairs Bureau provides families with help to repatriate bodies or deal with legal work if there is no confirmed death and thus no death certificate. Last year 808 Canadians died abroad, while more than 12,000 were injured, robbed, in trouble with the law or stranded in foreign nations. ♦

The 24-hour Consular Affairs emergency line is at 1-800-387-3124 or (613) 943-1055.

If you go...

Take some precautions to ensure you are prepared if disaster strikes:

- Read the Travel Report for advice on safety and security, health conditions and entry requirements;
- Buy travel insurance;
- Leave a hotel number or your itinerary with someone at home;
- Register with the local Canadian embassy—you can do it on-line;
- Keep a photocopy of your passport in a separate place;
- Bring along the telephone number of the nearest Canadian mission.

For additional tips consult the booklet *Bon Voyage, But...* Find it as well as Travel Reports and other information on the Consular Affairs Web site at www.voyage.gc.ca.



Consular help: Serge Paquette, Director of Emergency Services for FAC.

THE SEARCH IN THAILAND

By mid-morning each day over the Christmas holidays, Diane Therrien, a Canadian living in Phuket in southern Thailand, was usually on the beach with her mother, visiting from Trois-Rivières, Quebec. But at 10:30 a.m. on December 26, when the tsunami hit, the two had gone to visit a Buddhist temple.

When they returned home, a neighbour told Therrien about a big wave that had hit the other side of Phuket, an island about the size of Montreal. Only the next morning did she learn from a newscast the extent of the tragedy on the beaches facing the open ocean.

She rushed to action. Therrien, the head librarian at a British college and fluent in Thai, had signed up last September with the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok as a volunteer warden to assist Canadian nationals in emergencies. Along with her mother and a Thai friend, she began to look for Canadians in the heavily affected areas. The three were astonished by what they found.

"Many big hotels on the beach had bars and restaurants in the basement; the people in there didn't stand a chance," she says. "The water just came in and filled up the hole. They couldn't escape."

By that time, Diego Tremblay, the Embassy's Second Secretary and Consul, had established Canada's formal presence in Phuket. On Boxing Day evening, Tremblay set up a table in a conference room of a government building that had been transformed

into a temporary base for a number of embassies. "A sea of people poured into the room," he remembers.

Some were still wearing bathing suits, others wore life jackets. They walked around with lost expressions under the glare of bright lights. "I was caught in the wave..." "I was on the beach..." "I was in my room..." They told their stories with few tears, Tremblay remembers, "as though they were apart from it. They were in shock."

For four days, Tremblay, bolstered by more and more staff and volunteers, recorded the names and details of those present and missing, and issued emergency documents for survivors to fly to Bangkok, where embassy personnel could take care of them. The ranks of those taking part in the Canadian assistance effort swelled to 70, including vacationing Canadians who distributed Tremblay's cellular telephone number on posters and cards and an influx of more than 20 consular staff from as far away as Turkey and Trinidad and Tobago.

The team effort to find Canadians was vast. For several days Therrien, her mother and her friend visited hotels and hospitals to survey records of guests and patients who had come and gone. Brian Jackson, a defence attaché at the Canadian embassy who had come to the island the day after the tsunami along with Canadian Ambassador to Thailand Denis Comeau, combed ruined beach resorts for traces of Canadians identified on lists or mentioned in the accounts of other foreigners.

The Canadians affected by the disaster who remained in Phuket, many of them sleeping in makeshift



accommodations on temple floors, were urged to go to the capital. Jackson offered one man, whose wife appeared to have been lost on a Khao Lak beach, his Bangkok apartment, where he could settle in and communicate with his family by phone and e-mail.

The stricken man spent days at the embassy, desperate to keep busy with tasks, says Trade Commissioner Colleen Baker, who assumed the position of tsunami volunteer coordinator. She put the man in charge of buying water and snacks for the reception area set up for survivors. Embassy staff, their spouses and volunteers visited the dozen or so Canadians who were in hospital, collected donated clothes and food or just sat in the reception area listening to those who needed to talk about their experiences.

All who helped in the tsunami effort have now returned to their regular lives and work, but they will forever be marked by the event, says Therrien, who will continue as a warden in Phuket.

"It took two, three weeks to be able to think 'We are lucky, we escaped,'" she says. "We wish we could say the same for everybody." 🍁

Order into chaos: The scene outside of Phuket's provincial government offices, which were turned into a temporary base for a number of embassies.

AFTER THE TSUNAMI: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Canada has provided expertise, funds, emergency relief and long-term support to offset some of the suffering caused by the tsunami—and help get the region back on track.

Mary Heather White is helping Sri Lankans put their lives back together. White, from Lion's Head, Ontario, manages a vocational training program for World University Service of Canada in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, that provides poor and unemployed people with the skills to earn a living but is now focused on addressing the devastation after the tsunami.

In Banda Aceh, Indonesia, Canadian insurance company Manulife Financial, its own local offices destroyed and some 20 staff lost or unaccounted for in the disaster, has contributed \$200,000 to the relief effort and is expediting the processing of claims filed by victims.

At a Buddhist temple converted into a morgue in Krabi, Thailand, RCMP Inspector Neil Fraser and a team from Canada worked with forensic experts around the clock on the physically and emotionally demanding job of identifying victims of the deadly waves.

"The scope and scale of the disaster were beyond people's imagination," says Fraser, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, who shared responsibility for leading the 10-member team from Canada that worked for several weeks in January.

"Knowing that we were helping made our work very satisfying. We knew we were making a difference."



"Local people were the first to respond": Mary Heather White stands with Sri Lankan women involved in the carpentry program run by World University Service of Canada (WUSC), which is helping people to put their lives back together.

Whether providing expertise, donating money and relief supplies, or working directly in the 12 countries affected by the tsunami, Canadians from all walks of life, sectors, organizations and parts of the country have made a difference following the disaster. The outpouring of support for those affected in Asia Pacific builds on a long-standing relationship between Canada and the region as emergency relief turns to rehabilitation, reconstruction and other long-range efforts.

Within hours of the massive waves, the Government of Canada sprang into action at home and abroad. Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC), which is responsible for coordinating the overall government response to the crisis, convened a special disaster task force that brought together resources and expertise from more than a dozen federal departments and agencies, providing everything from forensic teams, immigration services and satellite images of affected areas to

assistance for Canadian companies looking to get involved in the reconstruction process.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) responded immediately by working with multilateral and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners to channel Canada's aid. The Government of Canada has allocated \$425 million toward humanitarian assistance, rehabilitation and reconstruction over the next five years.

Perhaps one of Canada's most visible contributions has been the involvement of the Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), a military unit assigned in January and February to provide medical support and water purification to Ampara, a region in Sri Lanka where 10,000 people died and 180,000 lost their homes. During their stay, the team treated 5,500 patients, produced more than 2.5 million litres of drinking water, transported some 55,000 people

across a local waterway and took on community projects such as repairing schools, building temporary shelters and clearing rubble.

One DART member, Captain Karen Trainor, a nurse practitioner based in Petawawa, Ontario, helped treat 30 to 70 people a day in mobile health clinics around the area. "Most of the hospitals were destroyed, and many doctors and nurses were killed," she said as she returned to Canada. "DART made a big difference in the eyes of Sri Lankan people."

In addition to federal funds, the provinces and territories have donated roughly \$20 million. Municipalities climbed on board as well, with cities such as Calgary contributing emergency supplies and organizations like the Federation of Canadian Municipalities providing expertise to their counterparts in the region to rebuild local administrations and re-establish essential services such as sewage treatment, drinking water and public transit.

Canadian companies and unions have committed funds to help tsunami victims and are matching employee and member contributions. Firms such as Air Canada and Apotex Inc. worked with World Vision Canada to ship relief supplies like water purification equipment, clothing and non-perishable goods, and Air Canada provided transport for aid workers.

Canadian NGOs, many of which have field offices or partners in the affected communities, were able to respond quickly to diverse priorities, from transporting the injured to hospital and building temporary housing to distributing food, medicine and clothing.

Strong ties between the NGOs and their local counterparts in Asia have helped those in need receive appropriate assistance. Both the United Church of Canada and Presbyterian World Service & Development, for example, support the Institute for Development Education (IFDE) in India, which in turn helps local

women from marginalized and poor communities work together to break cycles of poverty. Even in the midst of the chaos following the tsunami, the groups took time to understand the needs of families in devastated fishing villages, creating a sense of partnership with aid recipients.

"(It made) the community feel treated with dignity and respect," IFDE Director Anitha Mahendira wrote in an e-mail to her Canadian partners.

Surely the most remarkable Canadian response to the tsunami came from the public, with individuals donating almost \$200 million in contributions.

Subject to guidelines, the Government of Canada will match

Making a contribution:
Captain Karen Trainor, a nurse practitioner with Canada's DART, helped treat people in mobile health clinics in Sri Lanka, such as this girl with a skin condition.



Open house

At the front of a two-story house in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, within sight of washed-up cars and ruined buildings, a Maple Leaf flag announces a new presence for Canada on the scene of the tsunami's worst devastation. Opened on January 30 by Randolph Mank, the Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia, "Canada House Aceh" is helping to channel Canadians and Canadian support to those hardest hit by the disaster.

"It's important for people to know that Canada is here, and trying to help as best we can," says Karen Foss, a political officer posted in Indonesia and one of a team of several staff who have relocated from Jakarta to work and live at Canada House.

Located about 50 metres from where the waves stopped, the large house has quickly become a focal point for Canadian involvement in relief and reconstruction efforts. It provides on-the-ground contact for Canadian International Development Agency representatives, Indonesian officials, other donors, non-governmental organizations and even individual Canadians wanting to assist in the rehabilitation work.

Canada House is always busy, with staff coming and going between projects in the field and meetings with local people and then working long into the night on reports and preparing for the day ahead.

"I'm very proud of how the Government of Canada has responded, and impressed by all of the support coming from Canada," says Foss. "That's what makes this work so rewarding. I'll be here as long as I'm needed."

Diplomat Karen Foss: "I'll be here as long as I'm needed."





Honouring the victims: Thevi Ampy says prayers for those lost in the tsunami at a remembrance service at a Hindu temple in Richmond Hill, Ontario.

such public donations to qualified aid groups. CIDA will receive proposals for the use of this money in the coming weeks and months.

Some individuals have felt compelled to go well beyond writing cheques, from organizing memorials and myriad events including school toonie drives, church suppers and benefit concerts in support of tsunami relief to heading to the region with organizations to lend a hand.

Mark Evans, an engineer with CBCL Limited, a consulting engineering company in Halifax, travelled to the Maldives to help Oxfam International rebuild water supplies contaminated by salt water. Evans's firm granted him a three-month paid leave of absence to do the job. "It was an opportunity

that Mark did not want to pass up, and we were glad to support him on behalf of the company and of Canada," says Doug Brownrigg, the firm's Manager of Municipal Engineering.

The international community is now looking ahead to the next phase of support for affected communities in Asia: rehabilitation and long-term reconstruction.

Oxfam International, for example, is working closely with local partners in the region to design appropriate strategies for rebuilding livelihoods—everything from restoring bicycles to small-scale fishmongers to offering credit to households newly headed by women. "The bottom line is that the people affected should be in the driver's seat," says Rex Fyles, who manages Oxfam Canada's humanitarian assistance program.

The Government of Canada is working to identify the best ways for Canada to support long-term reconstruction. A team from Environment Canada, Natural Resources Canada and CIDA has assessed the environmental impact of the tsunami and how to support more sustainable development of coastal communities. And scientists for Environment Canada are working on helping

countries such as India to develop tsunami early warning systems.

Canadians recognize the need for long-term commitment to the region, says Bob Johnston, coordinator of the tsunami disaster response for CIDA, adding that government agencies in affected countries have already worked with the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and others to assess reconstruction needs. "CIDA has been in close contact with these organizations and will develop programs accordingly, responding to priorities established by affected governments themselves."

Mary Heather White says that the focus of her vocational program's work has entirely shifted to long-term rehabilitation, with the carpentry, welding, masonry and plumbing it teaches needed badly in the time ahead.

"It's important to remember that local people were the first to respond using the capacity they had," she says. "We're going to continue to build on those skills so that people are better able to recover from this and any future disasters." ♦

Visit the Government of Canada tsunami response Web site at www.gc.ca/tsunami.

Helping hands and hearts

When Jill Sampson, a semi-retired veterinarian from Qualicum Beach, British Columbia, saw images of the tsunami on television, she knew she had to help. Sampson, who runs a small non-governmental organization called Poco a Poco that supports health and education in Guatemala, hooked up with a team from British Columbia's Children's Hospital and headed to Sri Lanka.

Once in Kalmunai, one of the country's hardest hit districts, Sampson put her medical knowledge to work by helping set up a pharmacy. But like everyone involved, she pitched in wherever she could, working alongside members of

Canada's Disaster Assistance Response Team who were stationed nearby to build temporary shelters for refugees—with some help from back home.

"UNICEF provided some tarps, but we needed tools and other supplies to actually get the shelters in place," she says. Just as she was about to buy \$5,000 worth of equipment herself, the town council of Qualicum Beach put up the funds to purchase saws, hammers, wood and twine for the job.

"The entire Qualicum Beach community got behind the project," says Sampson, who stayed in Sri Lanka for three weeks and has been replaced by another member of her community to continue organizing the building of housing in Kalmunai. "We want this to be the start of a long-term relationship."



Long-term relationship: Jill Sampson and her community of Qualicum Beach, British Columbia are helping the people of Kalmunai, one of the hardest-hit districts in Sri Lanka.

BUILDING PEACE, REBUILDING LIVES

A witness to the tsunami that devastated the coast of Sri Lanka, Valerie Raymond has been consumed by the aftermath of one of the greatest natural disasters in the region's history.

On December 26, Valerie Raymond, Canada's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, like many other Canadians, was enjoying a few days' holiday. As fate would have it, Ms. Raymond and her partner were at a resort near Galle on Sri Lanka's southwest coast and experienced first-hand the devastating tsunami that so dramatically affected the island—and the world—that day.

The two watched from their second-storey room as the sea eerily receded and then surged to shore. But it wasn't until the water was calm once more and she went downstairs that Ms. Raymond began to grasp the devastation the waves had wrought: the hotel lobby gutted, shops destroyed, concrete walls flattened and cars strewn about like toys.

Sri Lanka was hard hit by the tsunami, with more than 30,000 deaths and vast stretches of coastal areas ruined. Since she found her way back the following day to the mission in the capital of Colombo, a city on the coast that escaped the ravages of the tsunami, Ms. Raymond's life and job have been consumed by the disaster.

Initially, consular matters took priority, with those in the High Commission spending exhausting days helping to account for Canadians in Sri Lanka, finding them accommodation, contacting their families and easing their way home. Ms. Raymond

and her staff also worked closely with officials in Ottawa on Canada's humanitarian response to the tsunami, a key part of which was bringing the 200-member Disaster Assistance Response Team to provide medical support, clean water and other assistance to the island's devastated Ampara district.

Ms. Raymond lauds the dedication and professionalism of the hard-working Canadian and locally engaged mission staff, as well as the temporary reinforcements sent by Foreign Affairs Canada. She has been inspired by the resilience of the Sri Lankan people, whom she has come to know well through Canada's efforts in support of ending the country's long-standing and brutal civil war.

The conflict zone in the northeast was badly hit by the waves, Raymond says. "Many of these people had suffered for many years before the tsunami and now have to face another disaster. The devastation and the destruction are absolutely heartbreaking." Yet, she adds, there have been heartening stories of people from the country's three main groups—the Sinhalese, the Tamils and the Muslims—helping each other.

Being centrally involved in a front-page disaster is perhaps ironic given that Ms. Raymond, who was born in Winnipeg and was "a news junkie from a young age" growing up in Edmonton, began her career as



a reporter for *The Ottawa Citizen* in the mid-1970s.

She moved on to a series of communications positions in the government and in 1986 joined the Department of External Affairs and International Trade to work in a series of senior jobs. "I had the good fortune to come of age just at the time in the late 1970s when doors were opening to women," Ms. Raymond says.

She served as Canada's High Commissioner to New Zealand from 1997 to 2001.

Ms. Raymond plans to return to Ottawa when her three-year appointment to Colombo ends this summer, but life after the tsunami won't ever be the same. Each evening, she looks at the seashells she collected while strolling on the beach near Galle on Christmas Day and tries to comprehend the force of nature that took so many lives yet spared her own. "I don't think we can try to understand these things. We simply have to try to make a small difference, and that's very sustaining." 🍀

Canadian High Commissioner Valerie Raymond on Sri Lanka's coastline near Colombo: "I don't think we can try to understand these things. We simply have to try to make a small difference, and that's very sustaining."

PICTURING TRAGEDY

Jonathan Manthorpe is the international affairs columnist for the *Vancouver Sun* and the CanWest group of daily newspapers. A foreign correspondent for nearly 25 years based in Asia, Africa and Europe, Manthorpe is an associate of the Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society, which assists professional development among journalists in emergent democracies and developing countries.

It was the scores of photographs of the missing with stark, plaintive messages attached that first conveyed to me the particular horror of the disaster. They were everywhere in the compound of Thailand's Phuket provincial government offices: taped to walls, stapled to makeshift notice boards and pinned to trees.

What made these pictures of the missing so compelling and poignant was that they had clearly been taken only hours before the tsunami struck Thailand's west coast resorts.

Many showed men, women and children caught in Christmas Day celebrations. A young Swedish woman raised a glass of champagne to the camera. Dad and two children frolicked on the beach, waving and smiling broadly. A group of roistering guys and gals grinned beerily over a table thickly covered with bottles and glasses.

And already, less than 48 hours after the waves, there were the grim pictures posted by local hospitals of the recovered bodies of the victims.

This was the first major natural disaster to occur in the digital camera age. In the resorts of Thailand and southern Sri Lanka catering to North American and European tourists, almost every moment of the horror was captured and broadcast to the world through e-mail and Web pages as well as television and newspapers. People at home might not have been to Phi Phi Island or Patong Beach,

but the terror of an idyllic sea that turns suddenly vengeful was easily imaginable.

The enormity of the disaster and the vast areas and populations in South and Southeast Asia affected by it were evident when I arrived in Bangkok from Vancouver a day after the tsunami struck. On the long flight, I had had plenty of time to draw up an initial plan of campaign, always a critical first step for a lone reporter confronting such a massive and multifaceted story.

My good fortune was to learn the foreign correspondent's craft in Africa—no stranger to man-made and natural disasters—in the company of skilled and experienced colleagues. A golden rule is to address the story that's in front of you, and not be beguiled into chasing off after others that may sound more compelling. It's a discipline that is both practical and emotionally important; it is easy to be overcome by the highly strung atmosphere and lose judgment.

In Thailand on December 27, I faced no internal debate about where to go and what to do. The immediate story was about the Canadians who had died, were unaccounted for or had survived. Soon I was at the hub of the disaster response in Phuket and beginning to assimilate the human dimension of what had happened from the pictures on the walls of the government compound.



International affairs columnist
Jonathan Manthorpe

Posted alongside were lists of thousands of names of the missing, about 200 Canadians among them. It was the daunting task of trying to determine the fate of these people that confronted the Canadian Ambassador to Thailand, Denis Comeau, and his team of diplomats and volunteers. They did an exceptional job under the most trying circumstances.

My task was to seek out Canadian survivors and report their experiences within the context of the overall emergency response. Some found relief in telling their stories. Others, especially those desperately hunting for missing friends or relatives, were consumed by inner turmoil and more reticent.

As days passed, the lack of answers and the emotional roller-coaster rides between hope and anguish sometimes resulted in outbursts of anger. But, in truth, there was for the most part no information to give. One could only dumbly sympathize with people slowly acknowledging the bleak realization that there might never be an answer to what happened to their loved ones—and that the Christmas Day pictures would be their last memory. ♣

LEARNING FROM THE BATTLE OF HONG KONG

As Canada marks the Year of the Veteran, a new generation is finding out about a brutal chapter in the country's military history.

It has all the makings of a Hollywood blockbuster. An enduring story about the original band of brothers. An epic battle costing 290 soldiers their lives through 17 days of combat. Those 1,184 who survived were sent to prisoner-of-war camps to endure four years of torture, starvation and forced labour, many never to return home.

Yet, few Canadians are even aware of their countrymen's involvement in the Battle of Hong Kong in December 1941. As the number of survivors has dwindled with each passing year, memories of this landmark event in Canadian history have slowly faded, becoming a mere footnote in most standard high school texts.

Now, however, a new generation of Canadians is learning about their country's role in countering the Japanese invasion of Hong Kong. And the sacrifices of the veterans who died or were brutally imprisoned there are being acknowledged.

"Just lately, we're getting more recognition than we've ever had," says veteran John Lowe, 83, of White Rock, British Columbia, who fought with the Winnipeg Grenadiers. "We never talked too much about it. When you did talk about it, most people thought you were nuts or exaggerating...you couldn't live like that."

Awareness of the Battle of Hong Kong heightened with Prime Minister Paul Martin's visit to China

in January. Standing before a large gathering at the Sai Wan Bay War Cemetery in Hong Kong, Mr. Martin and Veterans Affairs Minister Albina Guarnieri paid tribute to veterans of the battle. Some of the survivors later visited an international school to talk with classes.

Among those in attendance at the ceremony was Lawrence Stebbe, 83, of Beauséjour, Quebec, one of the Royal Rifles of Canada based in Quebec City. For him, recalling his experiences, especially to youths, is new.

"It was such a severe degradation that most people, if you started talking about it, they wouldn't believe you," says Stebbe. "I never spoke about it to my children—and I have four of them and seven grandchildren. It took me 30 years before I ever started talking about anything that happened to us."

Today, as Canada marks the Year of the Veteran, such heroes are sharing their stories with captivated young audiences through the efforts of The Dominion Institute's Memory Project and Veterans Affairs Canada. The goal, says Veterans Affairs spokesperson Janice Summerby, is to help a whole new generation of Canadians gain a greater sense of the past.

"These veterans are advanced in age, and we really need to pick up that torch and remember," says Summerby, adding that the challenge is "to turn youth on" in new ways. "We have to approach them in their own world with technology."

Veterans Affairs this spring is launching a new database on its Web site of audiovisual interviews with veterans in an effort to preserve a part of history that is silently slipping away—and to help today's youth identify with yesterday's heroes.

Veteran Aubrey Flegg, 86, also a Winnipeg Grenadier, understands the difficulty that Canadian youngsters, who "want for very little," have in understanding what he and his comrades endured more than six decades ago.

"For younger children to really grasp what it was to be a prisoner-of-war, it's pretty hard," says Flegg, of Kelowna, B.C. "All our people should know what their veterans went through." ♦

To learn more about the Battle of Hong Kong go to www.hkvca.ca, for the Year of the Veteran see www.vac-acc.gc.ca and to view The Dominion Institute's Memory Project Digital Archives, visit www.thememoryproject.com.



A Canadian officer (below) greets POWs of the Sham Shui Po camp (above) after the Japanese surrender in 1945.



THE ASIAN EQUATION

Pursuing opportunity or hoping to reduce costs and remain competitive, Canadian business is looking to the East.

When Research in Motion Limited (RIM) of Waterloo, Ontario, introduced its BlackBerry service to India last October, the company knew it had potential.

Sales of the portable phone and e-mail devices have been exponential in North America; it took RIM five years to reach the 1 million subscriber mark and just 10 months to double it. The same snowball effect in India would add up to jaw-dropping results: some 50 million people in the country subscribe to mobile service, a fairly modest five percent of the population, although between 1.5 and 2 million more sign up each month.

Already, since RIM launched its star product on the subcontinent along with mobile service provider Airtel, business people across corporate India are thumb-typing on their

BlackBerrys, with some 50,000 users expected by this spring.

For Patrick Spence, Asia Pacific Vice-President for RIM, this latest move is part of a four-year push into the region. RIM is actively looking for a partner in China, where more than 230 million people use cellphones.

"Participating in those markets is important to our

long-term health and viability as a business," says Spence.

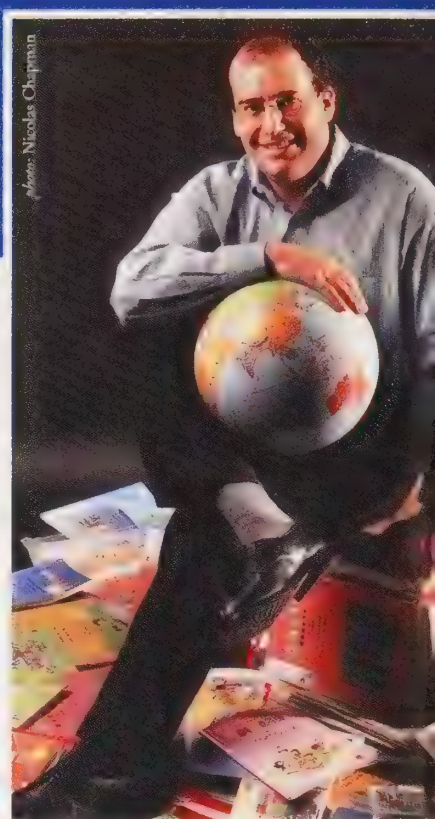
Like RIM, almost every sector of Canadian business is compelled to look to the East. Asia Pacific's big markets offer unprecedented opportunity for growth, while the capacity for low-cost production there redefines the terms under which companies the world over compete.

"We are an externally oriented nation," says Bob Keyes, Senior Vice-President International for the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Ottawa. "It's important we be there."

Market opportunities are to be found with Canada's oldest and most mature trade and investment partner in the region, Japan. Much potential remains untapped in this market, especially with the two emerging giants of China and India. Within the next few decades, China will be the largest economy in the world, followed by the United States and India, reports the Goldman Sachs Group.

International Trade Canada (ITCan) is developing a strategy for these emerging markets, says Kapil Madan, Deputy Director for Trade with the China and Mongolia Division at ITCan. Manufacturers have no choice but to analyze China's effect on their industries, he says. "Frankly, if a company has not considered its China strategy, it is already behind its competitors."

Mega Bloks Inc., a toymaker in Montreal, began buying electronic parts from a factory in Shenzhen in southern China in 1997, to be installed

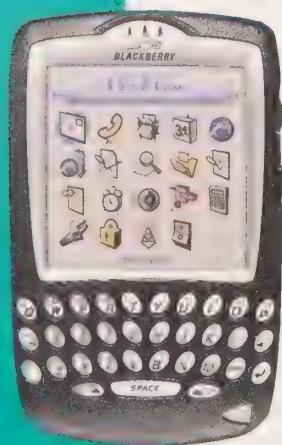


Building relationships: Michael Kraft, President and CEO of Lingo Media, a textbook company in Toronto, invested time and money and found the right partner to succeed in the Chinese market.

into products in its Montreal plant. By 2002, the company was having its Dragon series of wing-flapping beasts, fortresses and warriors entirely made in Shenzhen, considered the new toy capital of the world.

Eric Phaneuf, Manager of Finance and Investor Relations for Mega Bloks, says that having some of its products made in China allowed the company to carve out a place for itself in a market dominated by toy multinationals. The Mega Bloks staff of 1,000 in Montreal has remained stable, but there are now fewer plant workers and more engineers, industrial designers and marketing experts.

Manufactured goods are only one element of the Asian trade and investment equation. Resources figure prominently; forest products, minerals, potash, wheat and other agricultural products are a major part of Canadian exports to the region, and resource-hungry economies



Exponential potential: RIM's BlackBerry 7730 handheld is newly available in India and will soon be coming to other Asian markets.

in Asia are driving investment in Canada. The relationship is also growing to include a wide range of services, including telecommunications, financial services, landscaping, education and tourism.

As International Trade Minister Jim Peterson was leading the trade mission to China in January, the Canadian and Chinese governments were actively negotiating Canada's designation as an approved tourist destination to allow for group tours from China. The Canadian Tourism Commission, which recently opened an office in Beijing, expects a 20 per cent jump in visitors the first year after Canada receives its approved status.

The range of contacts made and contracts signed during the week-long mission attests to the scope of opportunities that Canadians are developing in China. Representatives of consulting firms, real estate developers, architects, schools and colleges, food manufacturers and mining companies penned a wide range of agreements.

Hongwen Zhang, Co-Founder and Chairman of Wireless Edge Canada Inc. in Calgary, Alberta, signed a contract with Surekam, China's largest information technology service provider, to offer its network security product to Surekam's corporate customers across China. The deal comes after Wireless Edge worked for more than a year to customize its technology to suit broadband telecommunications operators in China.

Doing business in eastern markets can be challenging. When RIM was exploring opportunities in India, it found the country's business practices, financial data and legal systems

more complex than those in other countries where it operated, says Spence, so it took longer to assess risk there.

Finding the right partner is also critical. Lingo Media, a textbook company in Toronto, saw two major China contracts fall through despite being paired with a market leader, says Michael Kraft, Lingo's President and CEO. The company found a new co-publisher, Kraft invested his time and money in building relationships and, to date, 94 million Lingo Media textbooks have been sold in China.

For companies looking to do business in the region, ITCan provides on-the-ground help with market intelligence, contacts and cultural briefings, says Madan. Canada is also negotiating bilateral agreements with Asian nations to ensure that Canadian companies are treated on a par with domestic or other foreign investors.

"These are some of the most dynamic economies of the world," says Yuen Pau Woo, Chief Economist for the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. "There is no region more important for the long-term growth of Canadian trade than Asia." 🍁

To read the latest news on investment and trade with Asia Pacific, see the April issues of *CanadExport*, International Trade Canada's biweekly trade and investment publication. Search the *CanadExport* archives for more Asian trade news at www.canadexport.gc.ca.

Growing connections

Hanfeng Evergreen Inc. is a Canadian company with deep roots in Asia.

When Xinduo Yu, a businessman from Dalian, a port city in northeast China, immigrated to Canada in 1994, he knew the Chinese government was eager to beautify and create greener, more livable urban spaces for residents. A former city planner, Yu established Hanfeng Evergreen in China to connect Canadian landscaping expertise and products with the thriving market back home. From landscaping, Hanfeng expanded into the ornamental tree business and fertilizers.

With a deep understanding of the local business culture, Hanfeng has encountered few barriers in relations with its 125 Chinese employees and its efforts to identify new opportunities in China.

Yuen Pau Woo, Chief Economist for the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, says that immigrants to Canada from the region can benefit from familiarity when doing business with their home countries. "The most interesting deals I've seen in China have Chinese-Canadians involved in them," Woo says.

The foundation has identified 148 associations that marry Canadian business with the region, such as the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber president Pradeep Sood says that through his organization, the strength of the market in India can be tapped by all Canadians, no matter their origin. "Our role is to connect people," Sood says.

Greener spaces: A cultural park in Haining, just southeast of Shanghai, is one of the many projects designed and constructed by Canadian Xinduo Yu's Hanfeng Evergreen Inc. in China.

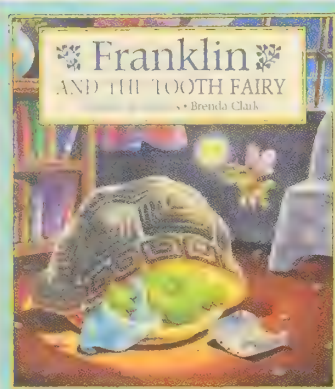


SHOWCASING CANADIAN CULTURE IN ASIA

Canadian culture is finding new openings in Asia Pacific, bringing diverse talents, contemporary creativity and Canada's wider interests and priorities to the region.

In South Korea, a little Canadian turtle helps schoolchildren with their studies.

Books featuring Franklin, the plucky character created by



Franklin the turtle helps children in South Korea learn English—and helps Canada's reputation in the region.

Winnipeg-born author Paulette Bourgeois, are used in classrooms across the country to bring English-as-a-second-language (ESL) lessons to life.

Indeed, South Korea orders large numbers of almost all of the titles that publisher Kids Can Press produces, notes Barbara Howson, Vice-President of Rights the Toronto company. "They buy our books and create ESL programs around them," she says.

The success of Canadian children's literature is one example of the many cultural products from Canada that have a markedly increased presence in Asia Pacific. Changing patterns of immigration combined with globalization, an increased interest in Western culture and greater openness within traditional societies mean that

Canadian artists are finding new opportunities in the region.

Those entry points mean more than an expansion in trade or a boon to Canadian cultural industries. The arts can convey deeply held values, concerns and aspirations in ways that appeal more intimately than official transactions, in the process extending understanding and warming diplomatic relations.

Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC) and International Trade Canada (ITCan), through missions abroad, help to showcase Canadian artists not only to expose them to an international public, but also because it supports Canada's wider interests and priorities, whether political, economic or governance-related. As one veteran foreign affairs observer puts it, "a generation ago, culture was having a Canadian pianist come to a diplomatic ball." With today's popularity in Asia Pacific of such diverse Canadian talent as singer Avril Lavigne, theatre director Robert Lepage, filmmaker Denys Arcand and author Austin Clarke, we have come a long way.

And while Canadian books, animated films and recordings carry many admirable qualities, so does the country they come from, Howson adds. "Publishers from other countries come to us because we're viewed very positively, and our books are multicultural."

Canada's cultural offerings in the region are diverse. La La La Human Steps' 2002-2004 world tour of its acclaimed creation, *Amelia*, included

performances in South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand.

Alberta Ballet visited China twice in 2004, and had further offers to return even before completing its six-city tour of *Carmen* there last Christmas. "Whenever our name comes up as Alberta Ballet in China, the word 'Canada' comes with it, and that has a huge impact," explains Harry Patterson, Director of Production for the Calgary ensemble. Patterson first travelled to China with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in 1982, and notes that the receptivity today is far greater. "You can see it by the attentiveness of the audience."

Two decades on, the latest trends in electronic music are equally captivating young Chinese audiences. Scratch DJ Kid Koala performed with great success in Beijing and Shanghai last summer. Indeed, a Numark CDX was recently advertised in a Beijing magazine as allowing users to "scratch like Kid Koala."

Asia offers some ready-made showcases for international culture, the largest this year being Expo 2005 in Aichi, Japan. Canadian Heritage will manage a major pavilion for Canada at the event, which runs from the end of March through late September.

The Design Exchange in Toronto will be among the many Canadian arts organizations there. "We plan to present an overview of 15 Canadian design firms and set the stage with a discussion on Canadian design," says



Artistic niche: Canadian animators such as Cookie Jar Entertainment of Caillou fame are making significant inroads in Asia.

▲ More hip than the world realizes: Canada has done well in the region in avant-garde electronic music, which is used as ambient sound in clubs or stores.

Paola Poletto, Director of Research at the prominent agency. "We have been working on building design markets in Japan in the cultural arena for several years... We have a lot to learn from each other."

Canadian artists believe there's much contemporary creativity to project from a country that is more hip than the world realizes.

"We want to rebrand Canada a bit, to show that there's a lot more going on here than just natural resources and the established culture," declares Christine McLean, Director of The Association for Electronic Music in Shefford, Quebec. Young people in Japan are "very receptive" to the avant-garde music used as ambient sound in clubs or stores, says McLean, who is leading a trade mission of music producers and distributors to Expo 2005.

The reverse is also important. FAC and ITCAN have brought delegations of buyers from Asia to events like the East Coast Music Awards, resulting in Canadian artists being invited to perform abroad.

Australia is an easy destination for Canadians such as Calgary rocker Kris Demeanor, who successfully tours that country with each new CD he brings out, and for a wide range of Canadian writers. Authors Austin Clarke, Corey Frost, Isabel Huggan and Jane Urquhart took part in the 2004 Brisbane Writers Festival. A musical piece composed by an Australian and inspired by the writing of Canadian Anne Michaels also premiered at the event.



▲ Calgary rocker Kris Demeanor

Canadian films are regularly featured at events in Asia Pacific. The Canadian Trade Office in Taipei, Taiwan, is showcasing new and classic Canadian films in March and April in conjunction with SPOT, Taipei's leading alternative film venue. Featured will be the Oscar-winning *Ryan* and Oscar-nominated *Hardwood*, as well as Denys Arcand's *The Barbarian Invasions* and *The Decline of the American Empire*. Two documentaries on the Chinese-Canadian experience, *In the Shadow of Gold Mountain* and *The Magical Life of Long Tack Sam*, will also be screened.

Canadian film and filmmaking are popular in India, from being featured at venues such as the 10th Kolkata Film Festival last year to the use of the Rocky Mountains in Alberta and British Columbia as backdrops for the popular snow and ice scenes in Hindi movies. Young Indo-Canadians are making their mark in the huge Indian film industry centred in Bombay, as profiled in the popular 2002 National Film Board documentary *Bollywood Bound*. The directorial debut of Nisha Pahuja, that film premiered at the Indo-Canadian Film Festival in Delhi, India.

Canada's expertise in animation is increasingly sought after in the



region. For example, Algonquin College in Ottawa has signed an agreement with Animaster, India's largest training and production studio, based in Bangalore, which offers cutting-edge animation technology and a faculty made up of industry leaders from North America and Asia Pacific.

Canadian animators have been invited to South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam and the Philippines, "and the response we get there is incredible," says Kelly Neall, Managing Director of The Ottawa International Animation Festival. Along with well-established companies such as Nelvana, which has significant working relationships in India and Taiwan, Canadian animators including Asia China Media Ventures, China Film Animation and Cookie Jar Entertainment (of Caillou fame) are making significant inroads.

"Having this artistic niche is an invaluable public relations vehicle for our country," Neall adds. ♣

To learn more about Canadian culture in Asia Pacific, visit the Foreign Affairs Canada Arts and Cultural Industries Web site at www.international.gc.ca/arts.

▲ Leading edge: Projects such as a design for an aerial tramway by Lang Wilson Practice in Architecture Culture in Vancouver are putting Canadian design on stage in Asia.

YOUTH ACTIVISM VITAL TO LANDMINE CAMPAIGN

Canadian youth are giving life to the Ottawa Convention on landmines. By raising awareness, they are playing a part in solving the devastating problem.

The small farming community of Morden in southern Manitoba is far removed from the deadly fields of landmines found in some strife-torn areas of South Asia.

But it's home base for two young Canadians determined to help end the humanitarian crisis of anti-personnel mines. Darryl Toews and Meredith Daun are co-founders of a voluntary organization working hard to promote the 1997 Ottawa Convention that launched the global ban on landmines.

The two are not alone. With support from Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC), the Canadian Red Cross and non-governmental organizations such as Mines Action Canada, Canadian youth are active in this country and overseas in raising public awareness, training volunteers and lobbying politicians about landmines.

"This is a solvable problem," says Toews, 35, a high school social studies teacher in Morden. "We in Manitoba are removed from the situation. But we can play an important part in helping solve the problem with other countries."

Toews and Daun, who met as volunteers five years ago and married in 2002, became interested in the landmines issue as university students. But it was through the Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program, a 10-month internship supported by FAC, the Canadian Red Cross and Mines Action Canada, that they became dedicated activists.

Since its inception seven years ago, the Ambassador Program has selected between 6 and 12 university graduates a year to visit schools, set up conferences and carry out fundraising in their home province.

As Manitoba's Youth Mines Ambassador in 1999-2000, Toews travelled to Bosnia to see the impact of landmines first-hand. Daun succeeded him the following year and visited Cambodia, meeting survivors and deminers to learn about the impact of landmines. "If one person is injured or killed, it affects the whole family," says Daun, 26, now a social worker with the Manitoba government.

Three years ago, the couple set up their local group, the Manitoba Campaign to Ban Landmines, to rally interest. They visit schools and work with Manitoba's current youth ambassador, Bequie Lake.

photo: Meredith Daun



Humanitarian crisis: A Cambodian landmine survivor is fitted with a new prosthetic limb at the American Red Cross rehabilitation centre in Cambodia.

Youth have been getting involved in the landmine issue in many ways. With assistance from FAC, the Canadian International Development Agency and other sponsors, Mines Action Canada sent three young Canadians to a youth conference last November held in conjunction with the Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World.

"We bring youth to international conferences so they can see what happens," says Christa McMillan, a program manager with Mines Action Canada, adding that as part of the experience, youth attend a series of workshops on skills and training. The organization this year is assisting overseas partners in South Asia to hold training sessions to enlist young people and has helped write a resource manual in five languages on youth engagement.

FAC supports an international program designed to build the capacity of young people to work in landmine



Meredith Daun wears a demining suit at a landmine awareness event as Manitoba's ambassador in the Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program (YMAAP) in 2000.



▲ The logo of an organization in Cambodia that assists children damaged by landmines.

action. Youth are critical to achieving success in the campaign, observes Andrew Shore, Coordinator of the Mine Action Team for FAC. "Young people are committed to pressing forward with the fight to rid the world of landmines... Nowhere was this more apparent than during the Nairobi Summit, where youth played a large role and had a considerable voice."

But does the work of young Canadians really make a difference? Just ask Mahboobullah Iltaf, a youth worker with the Afghan Campaign to Ban Land Mines, who came to Canada for Canadian Landmine Awareness Week in February.

"Having Canadian youth on board for this cause means stronger international commitment toward our goal for a mine-free world," says the 20-year-old Afghani, who has several friends who are landmine survivors. "Youth are the future of any movement that has energy and talent."

Sierra Noble, 15, an up-and-coming fiddler in Winnipeg who has been involved in the anti-landmine movement since the age of 10, plays at benefit concerts and regularly visits classrooms to take the message to youth. Last year, she was one of three Canadian youth who attended a children's conference on landmines in Japan.

"It's up to us to take a stand, gain power in this messed-up world and fix the mistakes," says Noble. ♣

For more information on Canada's Guide to the Global Ban on Landmines, visit www.mines.gc.ca. For the Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program, see www.dangermines.ca. To learn about Mines Action Canada, visit www.minesactioncanada.org.

DASHAN BUILDS BRIDGES TO CHINA

A billion people know his face and voice, although precious few of them in Toronto, where Mark Rowswell lives.

The popularity of this blue-eyed Canadian entertainer in China—he is ubiquitous under the stage name of Dashan, or Big Mountain—is unparalleled. Speaking flawless Mandarin and sometimes employing a colloquial dialect, Rowswell is a top performer of *xiangsheng*, a traditional form of comic dialogue or "cross-talk" in which he trained while studying Chinese literature at Beijing University in 1988.

That's been just a starting point for Rowswell, 39, who is one of China's most recognizable foreigners—the first ever to win an Outstanding Youth of Beijing award. Videos and CD-ROMs of *Dashan's Adventures* and *Communicate in Chinese* are sold across the country alongside "Uncle Dashan" children's books. He entertains at high-end government functions and serves as host for corporate events. The best-known Canadian in China since Dr. Norman Bethune, Rowswell has achieved near-cult status and acts as a cultural bridge of unique value.

Being "Dashan from Canada" has not only benefited Rowswell personally, but also helped further his country's reputation in China.

"Canada's relationship with China is perceived as non-problematic," he remarks in an interview while on tour in China. "This has been conducive to my development as a performer and public figure."

He says that being Canadian "has meant that there have been few political roadblocks to my work as a



photo: courtesy of Dashan Inc

performer in China," adding, "The reputation of Canadians in general as a tolerant, friendly and modest people has also been conducive to my acceptance by the Chinese people."

He jokingly cites a Western journalist in Beijing who wrote that, "of all foreign nationalities, Canadians have the best reputation in China, mainly because of the asinine performances of Dashan."

However, Rowswell knows that Canada's standing in China is based on more substantive matters. "We have a history of friendly contributions to China's development," he notes, "from Dr. Norman Bethune, to wheat sales against the wishes of the U.S. at the height of the Cold War, to being one of the first Western nations to recognize the People's Republic."

And, of course, to Uncle Dashan's adventures. ♣

See more of one of the most recognized personalities on the planet at www.dashan.com.

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Heartbreak and hope

The tsunami brought both tragedy and a tide of goodwill unlike anything many people have ever known. Canadians have pitched in at home and in the region to provide food aid, clean water, shelter, medical treatment, technical expertise and long-term reconstruction to the stricken countries. We take a final look at some images of the heartbreak and hope after the waves.

photo: CIDA-ACDI/
Nick Westover



Sri Lanka



photo: MCpl Paul MacGregor
Canadian Forces Combat Camera

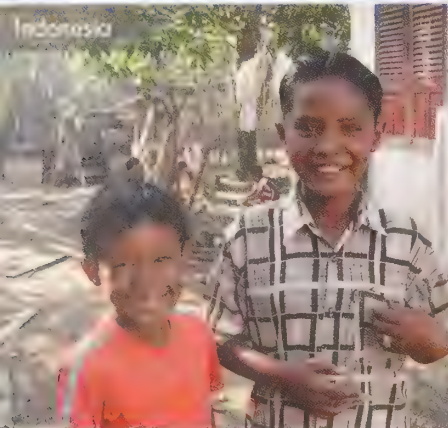


photo: MCpl Paul MacGregor,
Canadian Forces Combat Camera

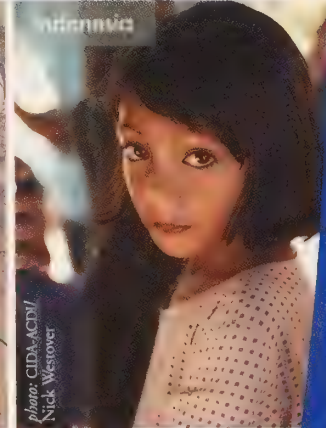


photo: CIDA-ACDI/
Nick Westover



photo: Mark Evans

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Canada World View

ISSUE 26 • SUMMER 2005

The UN at 60

Where to Now?

- *Canada's International Policy Statement:
Charting a new course*
- *Opening doors in Berlin*



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Our cover

Montage by Jeff Eustace.

background: The UN General Assembly.
photo: CP

right: Mr. Tim Brown was one of 450 Canadian peacekeepers deployed on Operation Eclipse in 2001 in support of the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea.
photo: MCpl. Danielle Berman, Canadian Forces Combat Camera

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photo: CP (David Babec)

Teacher Jim Ferney at Ryerson Public School in Cambridge, Ontario, directs students and teachers to spell the word "peace" in the school parking lot in support of the United Nations Days of Peace in September 2001.

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THE TEST OF HUMANITY

Paul Heinbecker is Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation and director of the Laurier Centre for Global Relations, Governance and Policy, in Waterloo. These appointments follow a career as a diplomat and senior official, including acting as chief foreign policy adviser to former prime minister Brian Mulroney. From 2000 to 2004, Mr. Heinbecker was Canada's permanent representative to the UN, where he promoted the International Criminal Court and advocated compromise on Iraq.

World leaders are failing the most fundamental test of their own humanity. Since they were told by UN Under-Secretary-General Jan Egeland in December 2003 that the situation in the Darfur region in Sudan "has quickly become one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world," tens of thousands of innocent people have died. Those leaders can redeem themselves this autumn when the most important enclave of heads of state and government since the UN was created gathers in New York to reform the organization.

Without a doubt, the most urgent issue facing them there will be not who gets a permanent seat on the Security Council, nor even how to build consensus on the potentially catastrophic nexus of weapons of mass destruction and terrorism. It will be whether innocents will be saved from slaughter in Darfur, the Congo, northern Uganda and all of the other little-known or half-forgotten humanitarian crises around the world, and who will do the saving. The lives of millions of people are at stake, as is the reputation of the UN. And the outcome is anything but assured.

The UN Charter, which was written in other times and under other circumstances, has become part of the problem. The framers of the Charter, with the appalling losses of World War II fresh in their minds, decided that the best way "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" was to outlaw aggression and create a system of collective security that proscribed interference in the internal affairs of others. With some help from the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and nuclear deterrence, the UN succeeded. But in recent years, while the number of conflicts between states has diminished, internal conflicts, such as those in Rwanda and now Darfur, have become the crucial issue. Nevertheless, international consensus on



▲ The legal view is that the UN Security Council collectively, not individual members, "owns" the decision to go to war in all cases beyond actual or pre-emptive self-defence.

the need for protective action across borders has been slow to materialize.

In 1999, after the UN sat out the Kosovo war under the threat of a Russian veto, Secretary-General Kofi Annan posed the question of how, if humanitarian intervention was indeed an unacceptable assault on sovereignty, the world should respond to such brutal inhumanity. The commission appointed by then-Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy to answer the question replied by shifting



▲ Former diplomat Paul Heinbecker: Nothing is so powerful as an idea whose time has come.

Photo: © Richard Drew



Displaced women at a refugee camp in northern Darfur: The lives of millions of people are at stake, as is the reputation of the UN.

the discourse from the right of states to intervene to the need of innocents for protection, which had greater appeal—not least to those needing protection. The commission's "responsibility to protect" (R2P) thesis holds that when governments cannot or will not protect their citizens from conscience-shocking brutality, including widespread loss of life, the responsibility to do so falls temporarily to the international community.

We expected a positive reaction to these seminal ideas at the UN, particularly from African governments, but were mistaken. Some reluctant African governments are no doubt concerned about their own hold on power, but even the more responsible, including the African Union, find the idea of intervention by non-Africans difficult to accept. European exploitation and the slave trade have left too much of a legacy. The Europeans, albeit constrained by their often bloody colonialist history, are at least open to the idea of protecting others. The Latin Americans look askance at the idea through the prism of 200 years of often conflictual relations with the United States. The proponents of Asian values, for their part, are paradoxically almost totally dedicated to the 17th-century European belief in sovereignty as an absolute good. The Americans are wary of an idea that might entail constraints on their capacity to act, while at the same time increase their moral obligation to do something in conflicts they would rather ignore. The Arabs and some other predominantly Muslim countries hear echoes of the Crusades and see parallels with the Palestinian issue.

Selling R2P at the UN was and remains difficult. Ambassadors of less powerful UN member countries fear that R2P could become a licence for too much intervention,

while others, mostly world-weary UN hands, fear there would be too little. One European ambassador has acknowledged privately that were a Rwandan-like genocide to occur elsewhere, his government would again not act. The U.S., which declared the situation in Darfur to be genocide, took weeks to get over its ideological opposition to sending the case to the International Criminal Court. In the General Assembly, spoilers such as Cuba, Pakistan, Sudan and Libya have marshalled opposition even to consideration of the idea, let alone action to implement it.

The case for R2P was made incalculably more complex by the Iraq war, even though that war did not meet the tests of R2P. As Human Rights Watch has observed, there was no evidence—and no serious argument has even been made—that the Iraqi government was engaged in or preparing a widespread slaughter. (This test would have been met in 1988 when Saddam Hussein gassed the Kurds and in 1991 when he suppressed the Shiites, but waiting a decade to respond belied the urgency to act.) Nor would the invasion have met the test of the "right intention". The stated intention involved Iraq's alleged development of weapons of mass destruction and cooperation with al-Qaeda, for which there was and is no evidence. Neither was the "last resort" principle in effect; the UN was still engaged, weapons inspections were under way and sanctions remained effective. The war also failed the test of "right authority". The mainstream legal view is that the UN Security Council collectively, not individual members, "owns" the decision to go to war in all cases beyond actual or pre-emptive self-defence. Not even a simple majority of the Council supported the war, unlike the case of Kosovo, where intervention was blocked by one threatened veto. I think the conduct of the war would have met the test of proportionality, although the death toll in Iraq has mounted inexorably since the invasion. Once their original rationales had been shown to be fraudulent, the U.S. and United Kingdom framed the war as a military intervention for humanitarian purposes, confirming the worst fears of many in the Third World and, in a very real sense, making the people of Darfur collateral damage.

The good news is that nothing is so powerful as an idea whose time has come. The high-level panel on UN reform appointed by Kofi Annan endorsed R2P as an emerging norm of international behaviour. The Secretary-General himself has embraced the idea. What remains is for world leaders to rise above the quarrelsome instincts of their ambassadors. The UN Charter speaks of "We, the Peoples", not "We, the Permanent Representatives", nor even the presidents and prime ministers. Leaders hold a sacred trust on behalf of their peoples. To protect the innocent, it is more than time that they acquit that trust. ♣

UN FOR A MODERN AGE

As the United Nations turns 60, Canadians are well placed to ensure that the organization effectively upholds the cause of collective security in a changing world.

By all accounts, San Francisco in the spring of 1945 was a dynamic destination. Lester B. Pearson found it “lovely and hospitable.” Charles Ritchie called it “lively as a circus” and added, “Nowhere could have been found in the world which is more of a contrast to the battered cities and tired people of Europe.” The two diplomats had arrived in this pleasing metropolis as members of the Canadian delegation to the post-war San Francisco Conference. There, over the course of eight weeks, 50 nations thrashed out the final wording of the Charter of the United Nations.

Today the world hails the Charter, signed on June 26, 1945, as a monumental achievement. What’s forgotten is the feuding and frustration of cobbling it together. Then, as now, there was scepticism that fine words by diplomats could do much to create a safer world. There were worries that the organization might fizzle, just as its predecessor the League of Nations had.

Fighting hard for the principle of collective security:
Lester B. Pearson addresses the United Nations Conference
on International Organization in San Francisco in 1945.



United Nations
Secretary-General
Kofi Annan
addresses the
General Assembly.

Mr. Ritchie in his revealing diaries described the San Francisco meetings, where “quick-witted men sitting quite still hour after hour listening to people saying at almost infinite length things which could be said in a sentence or two.” Escott Reid, another member of the Canadian team, recalled gatherings of morose colleagues in which “we bemoaned the errors the conference had committed and the weakness of the Charter.” Mr. Pearson confessed, “The organization of the conference seems to be pretty hopeless.”

The outcome, happily, was not. The document was endorsed, and Canada’s negotiators won plaudits. “When the chips were down the Canadians fought harder and more effectively for the principle of collective security than anybody else,” said *The New York Times*.



Canadians and the UN

There have been many Canadians at the UN past and present. Among the key players and their chief roles:

Louise Arbour: Appointed UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2004.

Lloyd Axworthy: Appointed Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to Ethiopia and Eritrea in 2004.

General Maurice Baril: Former Senior Military Adviser to the UN Secretary-General.

General E.L. Burns: Assembled and led the UN Emergency Force in the Suez crisis of 1956.

Margaret Catley-Carlson: Deputy Executive Director of Operations at UNICEF from 1981 to 1983.

Joe Clark: Served as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Cyprus.

General Roméo Dallaire: Directed the ill-fated UN peacekeeping operation in Rwanda in 1994.

Elizabeth Dowdeswell: Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme in 1992.

William Epstein: Former Secretary of the UN Disarmament Commission and Director of the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

Louise Fréchette: First Deputy Secretary-General of the UN, appointed in 1988.

John Humphrey: Organized the human rights division of the UN Secretariat and wrote the first draft of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Stephen Lewis: Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for HIV-AIDS in Africa, appointed in 2001.

Thérèse Paquet-Sévigny: Undersecretary-General of the UN's information department in 1987; Chair at UNESCO.

Lester B. Pearson: Represented Canada at the San Francisco Conference in 1945 and developed the concept of peace-keeping, for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Maurice Strong: Former Secretary-General of the UN Conference on the Environment, first Executive Director of UNEP, coordinator of the UN's Office for Emergency Operations in Africa, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Chair of the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Former Supreme Court of Canada Justice Louise Arbour was appointed UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2004.

Did you know? 59 UN peacekeeping missions have worked in areas of conflict and 175 international disputes have been resolved peacefully through UN offices.

It is useful to recall the mix of pessimism and hope that created the United Nations in 1945, for the UN of the modern age faces a similar brew of cynicism and optimism. To mark its 60th birthday—and the fifth anniversary of the Millennium Declaration on reducing global poverty—world leaders will gather in New York in September to consider a package of reforms proposed by Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

As they did in 1945, Canadians will work energetically to ensure that the UN effectively upholds its ideals in a changing world. According to Prime Minister Paul Martin, “this is a significant period for the United Nations, the best opportunity in memory to significantly improve an institution that is essential to our collective security and prosperity.”

Calls for reform

Just why is the UN so essential, and why is its 60th birthday the right time to improve it? First, its universal relevance is clear. From 50 founding states, the UN has grown to 191 members, the only international organization to which virtually every country belongs. Aside from traditional security, its programs today focus on a host of concerns such as the environment, development, children's welfare and women. Its vast array of specialized agencies subsumes groups such as the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Second, for better or worse, the organization suffered what experts term a “crisis of credibility” in 2003 when the UN Security Council split over the use of force in Iraq to oust Saddam Hussein. “This shook the confidence of international publics in the ability of the UN to prevent war,” says David Malone, Assistant Deputy Minister of Global Issues at Foreign Affairs Canada.

It also weakened the Secretary-General, who was unable to force compromise. These issues, combined with investigations into the UN's oil-for-food program and findings of serious sexual misbehaviour by both UN peacekeepers and managers, left the organization scarred. Canadian Louise Fréchette, the UN Deputy Secretary-General, feels the UN may have “slid back down the greasy pole” to where it was eight years ago when the last major changes were introduced. “Today, the calls for reform are stronger than ever,” she says.



photo: CP (Marshall Trezani)

That is why the measures being debated in the upcoming summit are so significant. Mr. Annan's summary of them, *In Larger Freedom*, stresses a key principle: that development, security and human rights are indivisible. "We will not enjoy development without security, we will not enjoy security without development and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights," explains Ms. Fréchette.

Accordingly, the Secretary-General proposes several changes: the creation of a UN Peacebuilding Commission to help states after wars end; the replacement of the discredited Commission on Human Rights with a more accountable, streamlined and powerful human rights council; the strengthening of nuclear non-proliferation measures; a sweeping anti-terrorism convention in which everyone finally agrees on a definition of the crime; and an increase in development aid by prosperous countries in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the UN's ambitious poverty-busting action plan launched in 2000. Long overdue expansion and reform of the UN Security Council itself round out Mr. Annan's vision.

Most of these ideas have Canada's support, so much so that when they were unveiled at a press conference in New York, one international journalist quipped, "Have they (the Canadians) produced the ideal state in the UN's eyes?" Allan Rock, Canada's Permanent Representative to the UN, acknowledges that many of Mr. Annan's ideas are echoes of the Canadian playbook. "There is a lot of support for things we consider fundamental."

Curbing nuclear proliferation is one example. Proliferation is "the greatest threat of our era in security terms," says Mr. Malone. Canada is also concerned about the global spread of disease and wants to strengthen the WHO's alert and response network. Meanwhile, it is committed to long-term stabilization and reconstruction of countries such as Haiti and Afghanistan. "For us, peacebuilding isn't an academic exercise," Mr. Malone says.

Responsibility to protect

Of special satisfaction to Canadians, Mr. Annan's report stresses the "responsibility to protect", a conceptual marriage of humanitarianism with hard security that derives from a 2001 report by the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, a Canadian-backed initiative. "R2P", as the report has become known, describes a "responsibility to prevent" catastrophic threats from becoming reality, a "responsibility to react" if populations



are caught up in such dangers, and a "responsibility to rebuild" after major upheaval.

Although R2P allows for military intervention, it stresses that force should only be used if a state can't or won't protect its citizens—and be carefully calibrated to inflict the minimum damage necessary to provide shelter from larger harm. "Sovereignty cannot shield mass atrocities, ethnic cleansing and genocide," says Mr. Rock. While the concept is controversial, he believes international momentum is building. Agrees Kate White, executive director of the United Nations Association in Canada (UNAC): "It's starting to get traction. Canada has made progress on profoundly important issues, R2P being one of those."

Not every state is aboard the R2P bandwagon, cautions Jocelyn Coulon, a foreign policy columnist for *La Presse* and author of *Soldiers of Diplomacy: The United Nations, Peacekeeping and the New World Order*. "Perhaps some western countries agree with (R2P), but not developing countries. There's a lot of suspicion." Geoffrey Pearson, a former senior diplomat, past president of UNAC and the son of Lester B. Pearson, says the reason for concern is obvious: developing nations will have to live with the consequences of armed intervention, not the wealthy ones. "Nobody's going to interfere in our affairs." Still, Mr. Rock adds that countries such as South Africa, Tanzania and Mexico have expressed positive views in relation to R2P. "We still face our challenges," he says. "We're engaged in very intensive work here in trying to explain the principle."

Canadian support: UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan arrives at the Calgary airport for the G8 Summit in 2002.

Did you know? The global refugee population numbers 11 million people. The number of internally displaced is about 25 million, nearly a third of whom are beyond the reach of UN agencies.



Canadian peacekeepers board a plane bound for Canada from Split, Croatia, in 1995 following the end of their UN mandate in the region.

Peace(keeping) in our time

Ambassador Rock comes by his interest in the UN honestly. His father James Thomas Rock, a career soldier, served 12 months in the first UN peacekeeping force in Suez in the late 1950s, a mission conceived by the senior Mr. Pearson,

Did you know? Canada has seven diplomatic missions accredited to the UN and its agencies.

who won the Nobel Peace Prize for it. "I remember getting letters from Port Said and Haifa and affected areas both in Israel and Egypt," Mr. Rock recalls. "These events happened during the early part of my life

and left a deep impression of the UN (and) a very positive impression of Canada's role in peacekeeping."

In principle, Canada continues to staunchly support UN peacekeeping. Yet while there are more than 70,000 blue berets deployed worldwide today, Canada's contribution numbers only 327 soldiers, police and military observers, ranking 32nd in personnel contributions. This does not mean the country has abandoned peacekeeping: as of April, there were 949 Canadians assigned to the UN-mandated NATO mission in Afghanistan, and 1,200 deployed worldwide. But UN-led missions have been less of a priority.

In part, this is because Western nations have tended since the mid-1990s to focus their efforts in geographic zones where they have direct national interests, such as Bosnia and Kosovo. Canada naturally took an interest in NATO peacekeeping, says Jocelyn Coulon, because the Europeans and U.S. are our allies, and we have a seat (and a say) at the NATO table. At the same time, other nations began contributing more to UN missions. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, for example, sometimes provide up to 2,000 soldiers for a single peacekeeping force. With its reduced military, Canada cannot.

There are contexts in which Canada remains important to UN peacekeeping, particularly when a swift, short-term deployment is needed, says Errol Mendes, professor of international business law at the University of Ottawa. One role is as "moral leader—but with that moral leadership has to come a commitment of resources," he says. The other involves specialized tasks. Canada boasts some of the best military communications experts in the world and knows how to combine hard military skills with humanitarian and peacebuilding abilities. The federal government's pledge to boost resources to the Canadian military may yet place Canada more firmly in the UN peacekeeping orbit.

Of poverty and process

Mr. Annan has specific expectations of prosperous countries. Five years after the establishment of the Millennium Development Goals aimed at halving world poverty by 2015, he urges rich nations to get on with committing 0.7 per cent of their gross national income to overseas assistance.

Some have complied with his call. In the recent *International Policy Statement* (see page 16), Canada gave no firm timetable. It has, however, increased and retooled foreign aid so that by 2010, bilateral assistance will focus on 25 countries, according to strict criteria of eligibility. The Statement points out the links between acute poverty and state failure, and between state failure and global security, concluding that aid and security go hand in hand.

Meanwhile, Mr. Annan also urges institutional reforms to the UN to make it more transparent, representative and accountable, a goal Canada shares. Of the two reform models the Secretary-General has tabled for the Security Council, Canada supports a proposal that calls for adding eight four-year, renewable-term seats and one two-year non-permanent, non-renewable seat. But Mr. Malone cautions against fixating on the Council, lest this overshadow discussion of more important proposals to shore up human rights, development and security. "What we see at the UN today is an orgy of posturing on Security Council reform, most countries having adopted fairly self-interested position on the subject."

Canada has meanwhile spearheaded another institutional innovation, the "L20", a group of leaders from 20 key North and South nations that Mr. Martin proposes will "work alongside the UN and other major international institutions." The potential member countries of the group represent two thirds of

Did you know? Canada is the seventh-largest contributor to the UN regular budget, and is one of the few member states to always pay on time, in full and without conditions.

the world's population, 90 percent of economic output and 75 percent of trade.

Mr. Malone describes the L20 as building on the success of the G8 by creating a separate forum to pull in key

Did you know?

Canada has served on the UN Security Council six times, the last in 1999-2000.

developing countries to address joint global challenges in fields such as health, terrorism and migration, rather than competing with the UN. But the point is controversial. Kate White of UNAC, for example, worries that the group could amount

to "the A-team saying 'the good kids can go with us.' I'm very cautious," she admits.

Still, this is a time for creativity in the world system, much as it was 60 years ago.

"Multilateralism is not a naïve pipedream," says Canadian Jennifer Welsh, the Oxford University academic whose book, *At Home in the World*, examined Canada's foreign policy future. "Anyone who suggests so should consult the historiography of the creation of the United Nations. With six years of carnage behind them, the crafters of that organization were motivated not by how they wished the world would be, but by how they knew it was."

Indeed, despite their frustration over the process of creating the UN Charter, Canadians took away from San Francisco in 1945 a deep belief that the organization would improve the lot of humankind. When the document was finally signed, Escott Reid wrote that if the UN is to succeed, "we must be willing to experiment, and to run great risks to attain great objectives."

"Above all, we must remember that all men are brothers," he wrote, "And that upon the dignity, the liberty and the inviolability of the individual men, women and children of the world depend the welfare of the people, the safety of the state and the peace of the world." ♣

Visit Foreign Affairs Canada's Web site on the UN at www.international.gc.ca/canada_un and the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN at www.un.int/canada. Find The Responsibility to Protect document at www.iciss.ca/pdf/Commission-Report.pdf. Learn about the UN Millennium Project at www.unmillenniumproject.org and read the reports of the Secretary-General, the high-level panel and other documents regarding UN reform at www.un.org.

Out of the ashes of war

As delegates met to draft the United Nations Charter, Canadian soldiers, sailors and air crew were still involved with Allied forces in the closing operations of the Second World War.

For Lester B. Pearson, who was not only a veteran of the First World War but had also been in London during the Nazi blitz of the conflict just ending, the UN represented "the greatest hope for a lasting peace" in the world.

"He was very conscious of what the end of the war really meant," reflects Andrew Caddell, Senior Policy Advisor on UN Affairs at Foreign Affairs Canada.

Many Canadian veterans returning from the battlegrounds of Europe and the Pacific theatre not only supported the goals of the newly formed international body, but some would again risk their lives just five years later when the UN took a stand against North Korean aggression.

"They'd been shaped by what they'd experienced," says Caddell, whose father Philip Caddell served in Britain and fought in the Italian Campaign in the Second World War. "Every person we knew who served abroad was absolutely dedicated to making a better world. And to many of those veterans, the UN represented that spirit."

Retired Colonel Paul Mayer, a distinguished Canadian veteran of the Second World War who went on to serve as a UN peacekeeping commander in a number of conflicts, including rescuing missionaries in the Congo rebellion and serving as a special observer following the revolution in the Dominican Republic, says that veterans were very much suited to the UN forces.

"We were used, and we were used well," remarks Col. Mayer, who lives in Ottawa. "It was combat, and we lost people."

Retired Colonel John Gardam of Ottawa, the author of a book entitled *Korea Volunteer*, says that when large numbers of soldiers were needed for the first major UN challenge in Korea, it was the infusion of Canada's Second World War veterans "that provided the stiffening of all the units" in the conflict.

Starting with Mr. Pearson himself, says retired Colonel Donald Ethell of Calgary, Canada's veterans brought to the creation of the UN a perspective that few of their countrymen had: the experience of seeing the devastation of conflict first-hand.

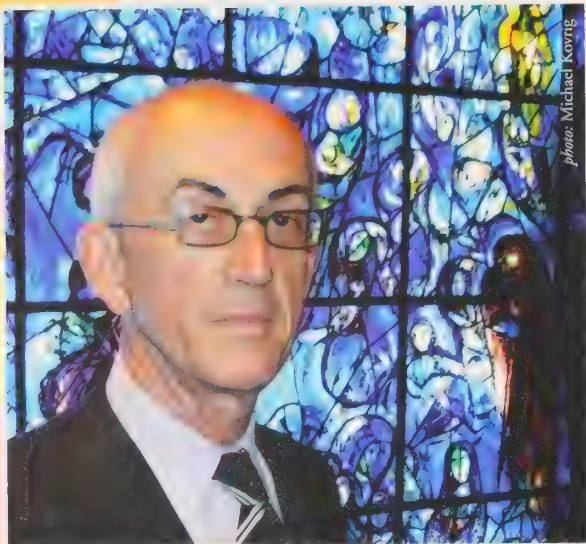
"Anyone who has seen the results of war," comments Col. Ethell, who is past president of the Canadian Association for Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping, "would be very supportive of an international organization like the UN."

Suited to UN forces: Col. Paul Mayer (left), a Second World War veteran who went on to serve as a peacekeeper, worked with fellow Canadian veteran Sgt. Leo Lessard to rescue missionaries in the Congo in 1964.



photo: courtesy of Col. Paul Mayer

A FORCE IN HUMAN RIGHTS



Ambassador Gilbert Laurin: The process of setting standards in human rights is painstaking but has an impact.

Gilbert Laurin brings a world view born of the Canadian Prairies to the country's mission at the United Nations.

As a child growing up in St. Boniface, Manitoba, Gilbert Laurin liked maps. He'd stick the point of his compass on his hometown, situated almost exactly in the centre of Canada, and draw ever-widening arcs until he reached the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. From an early age he was determined to see the world.

With a career that has taken him to Marseilles, Paris, Damascus, Rome and now New York City, where he nears the end of a four-year appointment as Canada's Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, he has well realized his goal.

Mr. Laurin, 60, says that his job working alongside fellow Ambassador

Allan Rock, Canada's Permanent Representative to the UN, is the best in the foreign service. But his diplomatic calling began almost by chance. After attending the University of Manitoba and Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto, he was practising law in Vancouver when he saw a recruitment ad for the foreign service. "I didn't want to say one day that I didn't have the courage to follow my dream, so I applied and took the exam, and, to my great surprise, I was accepted."

He began at the Department of External Affairs in 1980 as an immigration officer, then spent a stint working on women's issues in the Human Rights Division, a pivotal period because it reinforced his interest in human rights and forced him to "reflect on things I had previously taken for granted." His interest in human rights has stayed with him throughout his career and is at the crux of much of his work today.

Mr. Laurin is proud of Canada's leadership at the UN. "There really are things for which we are well known, our expertise in peacekeeping, in women's and children's concerns, in disability issues; our contributions to policing in Haiti; and our role in the development of an international criminal court," he says. "We're also known in a general way as a bridge between the Americans and developing countries. We understand both and can help bring the two together."

The process of setting standards in human rights, a key role of the UN, is painstaking but has an impact. "You start with resolutions stating that people have rights and countries have

obligations, states get more comfortable with the idea, and year after year things build until someone says it's time for a legally binding instrument," he says. "The first thing you know you're negotiating that instrument, and at the end of the day it will make a real difference to the lives of people everywhere."

Mr. Laurin has relished all of his postings, but the UN trumps them all, with a range of issues that is both challenging and exhilarating. A typical day recently included a meeting about the transfer of some of Canada's peacekeeping responsibilities in the Golan Heights to Ukraine and another meeting organized by the Mexican government on UN reform.

Living in the Big Apple is "constantly exciting," he says, adding that he and his wife Maureen Girvan especially enjoy its vast cultural offerings. "New York is a city that is second to none, with a quality of life that is unbeatable."

Working in one of the world's most influential international organizations, Mr. Laurin feels right at home. He credits his Francophone Prairie roots with imparting him with a cosmopolitan outlook that has stood him in good stead.

"St. Boniface and Winnipeg were very ethnically diverse. You met people with different languages and customs and realized the world is not a very a homogeneous place," he says. "That kind of diversity makes people more open and eliminates fear and hostility."

Simple words, but ones that could describe Mr. Laurin's own efforts at the UN. ♣

CANADA'S FINGERPRINTS

Louis Hamann is the United Nations bureau chief for Radio-Canada and CBC in New York. A native of Montreal, Hamann has held a number of positions in television and radio for the two organizations. Reporting from the UN for five years, he has been at the centre of coverage of the diplomatic situation over the war in Iraq as well as the investigation into the UN oil-for-food program and the ongoing push for UN reform.

I remember thinking to myself, "There is something peculiarly Canadian about all this."

It was shortly before midnight in late March, and after more than six weeks of negotiations, the 15-member Security Council had finally approved a resolution referring suspected war criminals in Darfur to the International Criminal Court, or ICC.

Pretty amazing, given that until just hours before the vote, Washington was still threatening to veto the measure.

Canada's role, as well as that of key Canadians, could be felt just underneath the surface—"fingerprints," as Paul Heinbecker, the former Canadian ambassador to the UN, liked to say.

In one of those "only at the UN" moments, Security Council ambassadors had broken off talks earlier in the evening to attend a reception at a steakhouse in downtown Manhattan. By the time they made it back to UN Headquarters to vote, it was close to midnight and therefore too late for the media to make a big splash out of the historic event that had just taken place. "That's too bad," one media-savvy diplomat confided to me after the vote. "too bad because this is big news."

Big news, indeed, when one considers that in the last three years,

tens of thousands of people have been killed in Darfur and more than two million others have been forced from their homes in a conflict that at times is reminiscent of what took place in the mid-1990s in Rwanda.

A year ago, I attended a ceremony here for the 10-year commemoration of the Rwandan genocide. Presiding were UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and Rwandan Foreign Minister Charles Murigande, as well as two Canadians: then-Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham and retired General Roméo Dallaire, a man who knows a thing or two about genocide.

Dallaire spoke eloquently about the importance of never forgetting what happened in Rwanda and touted "the responsibility to protect" as the best way to ensure that such a shameful chapter of our history does not repeat itself. A new diplomatic concept developed at Ottawa's initiative, the responsibility to protect says that if or when a country is unable or unwilling to protect its own citizens, the international community must act. Talk to any Canadian diplomat and chances are you'll hear about it in the course of the conversation. Mr. Annan has called on member governments to embrace the concept as part of his UN reform proposal.



photo: Donald Emmert, Agence France Press

As the horrors unfolding in western Sudan became more and more apparent to the world, it was yet another Canadian, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour, who pleaded with the Security Council earlier this year to refer those suspected of grave crimes in Darfur to the ICC. As I walked with her to a studio for an interview afterward, I asked if she thought the Court was a realistic option, given Washington's strong opposition. "This is not about the United States," she replied, "this is about the people of Darfur."

As I witnessed that recent late-night vote, I couldn't help but think about the Canadian "fingerprints" that ambassador Heinbecker so often talked about. Indeed, it is difficult to ignore the role that Canada has played in ensuring that justice is done in Darfur.

And when those suspected of crimes in that conflict are finally brought before the ICC, one of the judges is to be—you guessed it—a Canadian, Philippe Kirsch, a long-time diplomat who is currently president of the Court. 🍁

Canadian broadcast journalist Louis Hamann at UN Headquarters: It is difficult to ignore the role that Canada has played in ensuring that justice is done in Darfur.

A CONVENTION ON CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Canada's experience in the area of promoting and preserving cultural diversity is informing a debate before a UN body.

Flourishing with a multitude of distinct cultures and living alongside the most culturally influential nation in the world, Canadians have long wrestled with the competing demands of promoting dynamic trade relations and safeguarding cultural diversity.

It's a unique perspective that gives Canada a major role in an effort by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to create an international agreement that will set out how nations can nurture their arts sectors while respecting international trade agreements.

Representatives from some 135 countries are seeking to frame the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions, a document that is expected to be adopted by the UNESCO General Assembly in October.

Canada has been one of the leaders in this international effort, says Garry Neil, executive director in Toronto of the International Network for Cultural Diversity, a non-profit organization of artists and cultural groups working to counter what they see as the homogenizing effect of globalization.

"Instead of fighting a rearguard action every time there's a trade dispute, we've asked, 'how do we carve out a place for culture?'" Neil says. "What we needed was a legally binding convention on safeguarding cultural diversity."

Quebec has been a particularly active partner in Canada's commitment to the undertaking, with Francophone arts organizations forming the original nucleus of the effort to network Canadian cultural agencies, working in concert with provincial and federal governments.

Lise Lachapelle, Director General of the Association des réalisateurs et réalisatrices du Québec, a film and television body in Montreal, says her organization wants to ensure that trade agreements do not supersede Canada's right to give preference to the arts: "We should not negotiate culture."

Canada's position is to ensure that the UNESCO Convention has a non-hierarchical relationship with other international agreements. In addition, culture has been clearly identified by Canada as not on the table for negotiations in international trade agreements.

In framing Canada's position in the UNESCO discussions, Canadian Heritage in Ottawa has described cultural diversity as an important factor in social cohesion as well as economic development.

The challenge is that the arts do not simply represent intellectual expression but an ever-growing stream of consumer goods. Canada exported close to \$3 billion of cultural products in 2002, for example, a 50 percent increase over 1996, making culture an important industry.

Meanwhile, diversity includes a robust presence of foreign cultural

Distinct culture: The international hit *Atanarjuat (The Fast Runner)*, directed by first-time Inuit filmmaker Zacharias Kunuk, was the first Canadian film to win the *Caméra d'Or* for Best First Feature Film at the Cannes Film Festival.

products in Canada. At a World Trade Organization (WTO) gathering last November in Geneva, it was noted that more than 95 percent of feature films, 85 percent of record sales and prime-time English-language television shows, and 70 percent of book sales in Canada come from foreign sources.

Canadians are accustomed to expressions of passion on this subject, and arts groups have provided plenty to the current discussion. But a sober case is being made as well, one that most countries, including the United States, understand. "My sense is that every country in the world has rules on this," says Doug Bennett, the Mississauga-based publisher of *Masthead*, a magazine that focuses on the periodical industry.

Soon it will be clear which rules everyone must embrace. While confidence is high that a UNESCO Convention will be signed this fall, it is uncertain to what extent such a document may affect an organization like the WTO. What it can likely do is serve as what's been called a "norm-building instrument"—a tool to strengthen the efforts of countries such as Canada to preserve and promote their cultural diversity. ♣

For more information on UNESCO's Convention on the Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions, visit www.unesco.org/culture.

LIVING THE

MULTILATERAL LIFE



photo courtesy of Amy Bartlett

Amy Bartlett of New Brunswick, standing in front of the Vienna International Centre that houses the UN offices, gained "an intimate understanding of the larger picture of international politics" at her UN job placement.

Young Canadians are seizing opportunities for academic and work experience—and hoping for future careers—with the UN.

Even before landing her first full-time job, 27-year-old Amy Bartlett is a veteran of the United Nations.

As an international law student at Queen's University in 2000 and 2001, Bartlett was a delegate to model UN assemblies where she grappled with issues on the global agenda. This past year, as a graduate law student at Dalhousie University, she worked in a six-month paid internship at a UN agency in Austria.

"It's energized me," says the New Brunswick native of her varied experiences. "It's helped me focus on what I want to do." Now Bartlett is dreaming big—with aspirations to work at UN Headquarters in New York in the field of conflict resolution.

She's one of many young Canadians who are seizing opportunities for UN-related academic and work

experience. From getting involved in international youth conferences and model assemblies for high school and post-secondary students to working with UN organizations abroad, young Canadians are building careers by living the multilateral life.

Bartlett, for example, spent six months with the UN-affiliated International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna in a job placement organized through the United Nations Association in Canada (UNAC) and Foreign Affairs Canada's Young Professionals International (YPI) program. At the agency, she worked side by side with policy makers and professional diplomats in high-level sessions on such sensitive global hot spots as Iraq and South Korea.

"I was able to gain an intimate understanding of the larger picture of international politics and the international system, as well as Canada's role and position," recalls Bartlett, adding that the experience sharpened her skills in communications, intercultural relations and diplomacy. "It's given me that international professional edge I did not have before."

Exposing young Canadians to the UN and other global institutions fits with Canada's strategy to promote our knowledge and innovation in a competitive world, says YPI program officer Brian Foreman. "It's difficult to find a position at the UN, let alone find something that pays," he says of the work placements, which come with a stipend of \$12,000. "This represents a turnkey solution for people who want to get into international work."

The YPI program, supported by FAC and the Canadian International

Development Agency, is open to college and university graduates between 18 and 30 who are keen for first-job experience in an international setting. Since 1997, some 240 of the 3,500 interns sponsored by FAC have worked with the UN and affiliated organizations in placements organized by 46 non-governmental agencies, including UNAC.

Andrea Chow, the project officer for youth internship programs at UNAC, says the placements give young professionals a chance at meaningful work and contacts that could lead to full-time jobs. "Young people are in a Catch-22 situation," says Chow. "They want a job to gain experience, but employers offering jobs require people with experience already."

It's a formula that Alina Pleszewska, 26, of Montreal, is applying to her own career. With degrees in civil, common and international law from universities in Canada, France and Australia, Pleszewska was selected in 2004 for a six-month internship with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Quito,

International work: Alina Pleszewska of Montreal (centre) worked with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Quito Ecuador, resettling refugees such as this extended family that had fled the conflict in neighbouring Colombia



photo courtesy of Alina Pleszewska

Ecuador. Her job was to resettle in third countries refugees who had fled the conflict in neighbouring Colombia.

Pleszewska credits the internship with giving her credible experience in her search for permanent employment that fits with her goal of working internationally in the area of children's rights. "To allow young professionals to gain access to and knowledge of the international working community, which is sometimes difficult without contacts, is like offering them a trampoline for their careers," she says. After she returned home to Canada in 2005, a referral from Pleszewska's boss at UNHCR sent her back to Ecuador, where she currently volunteers for the agency on a project to combat child prostitution.

For other young people, the UN experience happens closer to home. Earlier this year, Vancouver political science student Lisa Fry organized delegates from her campus at Simon Fraser University to attend a model UN at the University of British Columbia. The assembly—like others that draw more than 5,000 delegates across Canada each year—brings

together students to work in teams that pass mock legislation on global affairs.

"It's a good chance to meet people and understand the UN process," says Fry, 22, who is active on other UN issues such as landmines. "It's much more exciting than sitting in a classroom."

Sparkling youth interest in the UN is a goal of FAC's Public Diplomacy Program, says project manager Graeme Hamilton. "It provides us with the opportunity to educate future global citizens." Last year, the department sent 350 Canadian students to a model session of the General Assembly at the UN Headquarters in New York. FAC also provides financial support to the Canadian International Model UN, a bilingual simulation exercise for 600 Canadian post-secondary students and 100 more from abroad that is held in Ottawa each spring.

Fry will begin graduate studies this fall, with a possible UN career in her future. "There is a lot of criticism of the UN, but there is also a lot of potential for the UN," she says.

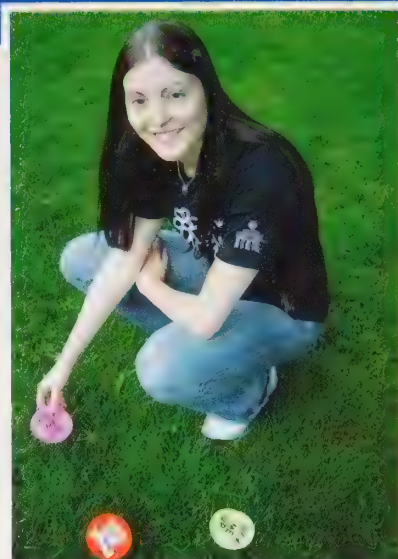


photo: courtesy of Lisa Fry

More exciting than a classroom: Vancouver political science student Lisa Fry has been active in model UN assemblies and on other UN issues such as landmines.

"That's why youth are interested in getting involved." ♦

For more information on Foreign Affairs Canada's Young Professionals International program see www.international.gc.ca/y-pi-jpi. Find the United Nations Association in Canada at www.unac.org.

Scholars shine light on the UN

Canada is the current home base for an unusual network of scholars whose focus is the UN.

The Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS) brings together academics in international law and diplomacy, as well as working UN professionals, to shine light—not heat—on the world body and its affiliated organizations.

"People are interested in the UN whether they hate it or think they love it," says ACUNS executive director Alistair Edgar, a professor of international relations at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, the current host of the council. "What you will get from us is serious and well-informed critical analysis."

First set up in 1987 at Dartmouth College, an Ivy League university in New Hampshire, the 1,000-member

independent, worldwide organization changes location every five years. For 2003-2008, ACUNS selected Canada as its first home outside the United States.

While think-tanks dispense advice, ACUNS prefers the exchange of scholarly research and in-the-field practice through seminars and conferences and a journal on global governance. The council also offers a two-week summer workshop, held in different international locations, where up-and-coming young researchers and those early in their UN careers can engage in intensive discussion.

"This kind of interaction is extremely valuable and quite rare," says Barbara von Tigerstrom, a Canadian lawyer and senior lecturer at the University of Canterbury School of Law in New Zealand who recently participated in an ACUNS workshop

in New Delhi. "It allows us to explore ideas in depth and establish a network of people working on related subjects from different perspectives."

At this year's ACUNS annual conference, hundreds of top academics and invited UN officials are meeting in Ottawa in mid-June to measure progress on the UN Millennium Declaration, which was signed by member states in 2000 with the goal of eliminating extreme poverty by 2015.

It's a good time, says Edgar, for scholars and practitioners to ask, "What is working, what isn't working and what do we need to do to make it work by 2015?" The answers, he believes, will help the UN live up to its original ideals.



Visit the Academic Council on the United Nations System at www.acuns.wlu.ca.

PEACE DIVIDEND

The Canadian blue beret holds sway at home—and abroad—through specialized training for peacekeepers.

For 50 years, Canadians have earned a worldwide reputation in peacekeeping, using skills and strategies honed in increasingly complex hot spots around the globe.

Now Canada is taking its peacekeeping traditions abroad. Officers from the Canadian Forces Peace Support Training Centre (PSTC) in Kingston, Ontario, earlier this year spent three weeks in Mali providing practical instruction to students from 11 countries across Africa training to be United Nations military observers.

"Canadian expertise in this area is valued," says Major Lindsay Reinelt, the officer commanding the training section of the PSTC who led the program, which covered everything from gathering information from local people to investigating human rights violations. "We want to increase the capacity of peacekeepers to operate safely and effectively in demanding, high-risk situations."

The Mali training, conducted at the Koulikouro Peace Support School and financed by Foreign Affairs Canada's Human Security Program, the Canadian Forces Military Training Program and the governments of France and Mali, paralleled a course the PSTC currently delivers to Canadian military officers and others working in dangerous regions.

Wendy Gilmour, Deputy Director of the Regional Security and Peacekeeping Division at FAC, says that such programs help nations further develop their capabilities to conduct peace

operations. "In times of violent conflict, successful peace support missions are critical to relieving human suffering," she says. "Canada is pleased to be able to work with the school at Koulikouro, along with other G8 nations, as part of our goal to assist in building global peace operation capacity, particularly in Africa."

Norman Hillmer, a professor of history and international affairs at Carleton University who has studied how the UN blue beret "holds sway over the national imagination," says that peacekeeping in its early days involved soldiers with combat experience maintaining negotiated peace settlements. In the post-Cold War era, training has been developed to meet the changing scope and nature of missions, he says. "Peacekeeping has become complicated. The definitions and the numbers of operations have exploded; it's about intervention and nation building," and goes well beyond the reach of the UN, he adds.

Officials from Canada's Pearson Peacekeeping Centre have contributed to the teachings of the new Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Accra, Ghana, in operational level areas such as disarmament and demobilization. Maj. Reinelt says the PSTC, which was started in 1995 to provide tactical training, has provided training materials to more than 30 peace-support training centres around the world.

The 15-day military observer training program in Mali, the first of its kind, involved seminars and



on-the-ground exercises for 23 officers, delivered in English and French, in fields such as landmine awareness, first aid and hostage negotiation. In the simulations the observers—who operate unarmed—encountered trauma cases in minefields and heavily armed child soldiers at roadblocks, as well as finding themselves ambushed and robbed, "everything they might encounter in the real world," says Maj. Reinelt.

Lieutenant-Colonel Bakary Kanouté, commandant of the Koulikouro school, said, "It was a good experience to see what Canadians are doing." After the program, participants returned home with copies of the training materials to share with people in their countries and regions.

The PSTC intends to deliver more such programs overseas, with an upcoming training exercise planned for South Africa. 🍁

Achieving strategic effects: Peace support trainees learn practical techniques in "real world" simulations, such as caring for a soldier injured by a landmine

A ROLE OF PRIDE AND INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD

The Government of Canada tabled in Parliament on April 19 the *International Policy Statement (IPS)*, Canada's first comprehensive framework in a decade on the country's role in the world. Subtitled *A Role of Pride and Influence in the World*, the Statement presents a vision of an internationally active Canada anchored in North America, equipped to promote Canadian interests and values in a rapidly changing and less predictable world.

International policy at a crossroads

The world is smaller and more crowded than ever before. While sovereign states remain the fundamental building

blocks of international society, they now share the landscape with a host of other actors. Globalization has connected people and places in ways that were previously unimaginable, and has blurred the lines around national economies. In the process, it has generated unprecedented levels of wealth. Yet many have been left behind and unexpected threats have emerged. Canadians now understand that seemingly remote events can have direct, and sometimes dire, domestic consequences.

With a rich and open economy, and a skilled and adaptable population, Canada is well placed to gain from this worldwide transformation. But Canada can do more than benefit. It can also contribute. A series of positive developments, both at home and abroad, have coalesced to provide Canada with an unprecedented chance to make a difference in the world.

A historic opportunity

The IPS responds to the historic opportunity Canadians have today to reconceptualize and re-energize their international role. That opportunity can only be seized through a clear understanding of Canada's core national interests, and strategic reinvestments in the country's military, diplomacy, commercial policy and development programs. Recent years have witnessed a relative decline in the attention Canada has paid to its international instruments, and reinvestment is critical in order to maintain influence in a more competitive world. Through more focused, integrated and strategically

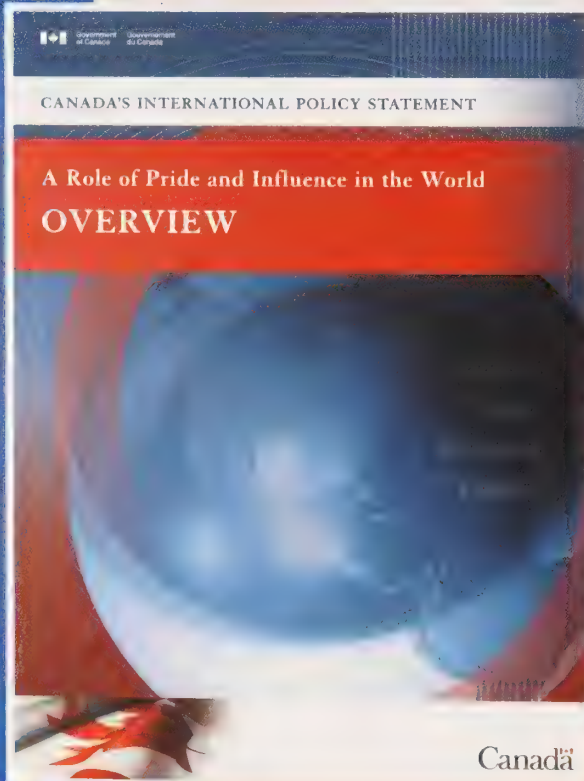
resourced policies, Canada can honour its historical achievements in international affairs and help create greater security and prosperity in the 21st century. The success of this strategy will depend on Canada's continued resolve and capacity to forge new partnerships with other states and non-state actors.

The IPS establishes the principles and priorities that will guide the next generation of Canadian international engagement. It starts from two basic premises: first, that there can be no greater role, no more important obligation for a government, than the protection and safety of its citizens; and second, that unless states act collectively, acknowledging their shared vulnerability, the rich will become richer and the poor will become poorer—and everyone will be less secure.

The strategy that emerges from the Statement reflects what Canada is—a successful liberal democracy, with both a regional destiny and international responsibilities. It adapts to the key changes in the world context: new and more deadly security threats, a changed distribution of power, challenges to existing international institutions, and the transformation of the global economy.

A new approach

The Statement includes an overview and four documents focused on diplomacy, development, defence and international commerce strategies. They outline how Canada will deliver on five key priorities: revitalizing Canada's North American partnership,



The new diplomacy

Priorities for re-establishing Canada as a valued and valuable player in world affairs include:

- New tools designed to enhance the security of Canadians and fulfill Canada's responsibilities toward countries in crisis, such as a rapid-reaction, civilian capacity to respond to humanitarian crises and restore stability—a Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START);
- A new North American strategy to better advocate Canada's interests, build continental networks and position the continent internationally;
- A focus on results-oriented multilateralism to tackle emerging international issues, including through support for UN reform efforts, such as the proposed human rights council, peace-building commission and the "responsibility to protect" concept;
- New networks of influence through government-wide strategies to broaden and deepen ties with emerging world powers such as China, India and Brazil; and
- A renewed Foreign Affairs department focused on rebuilding its field presence to ensure that it is more agile and better equipped for emerging challenges, and the modernization of consular and passport operations to provide the best possible assistance to Canadians abroad.

The development challenge

Strategies for increasing the effectiveness of the development cooperation program include:

- An additional \$2.9 billion to double Canada's international assistance by 2010 from its 2001-02 level, plus an extra \$500 million for 2005 and 2006;
- The doubling of assistance to Africa by 2008-09 from its 2003-04 level;

- A concentration by the Canadian International Development Agency on five sectors: good governance, health, basic education, private-sector development, and environmental sustainability; and
- A concentration by 2010 of at least two thirds of bilateral aid with 25 development partners.

Defence in an unpredictable world

Measures to meet a complex array of security challenges include:

- Working with North American and international partners to eliminate emerging threats, combat terrorism and deal effectively with failed and fragile states;
- Creation of "Canada Command", a single, operational command headquarters; and
- Funding of \$13 billion over the next five years for force transformation and expansion.

International commerce

Strategies for meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing market involve:

- Enhancing economic relationships with established partners in North America, Europe and Japan, and forging new partnerships with economic powerhouses such as China, India and Brazil;
- Providing the right services to Canadian companies to help them compete and prosper in the world economy. These include building science and technology partnering frameworks, expanding air routes, harmonizing regulations, and negotiating foreign investment promotion and protection agreements; and
- Providing \$20 million over five years for science and technology cooperation.

building a more secure world, increasing prosperity; promoting respect for human rights, and crafting a new multilateralism. Overall this entails:

- **An integrated approach to international relations:** The Statement sets out a whole-of-government, whole-of-Canada plan of action to respond to the international challenges facing the country today.
- **Reinvestment in Canada's role in the world:** Significant new funds have been committed to Canada's international instruments, positioning the government to implement the IPS. Approximately \$17 billion has been earmarked over a five-year period to meet international responsibilities and raise Canada's international profile. Funds will be directed toward bolstering national defence, doubling international assistance, strengthening the effectiveness and agility of Canada's diplomatic presence abroad, and building stronger international economic relationships.
- **Recognition of the changing geopolitical landscape:** While acknowledging the pre-eminence of the United States and the importance of North America to Canada's international policy, the IPS recognizes that Canada must develop deeper relations with a new tier of world players.

- **Recognition that the issues Canada faces are more complex and increasingly interrelated, blurring the distinction between "domestic" and "international":** The IPS highlights the links among security, development, commerce and the environment, and concludes that Canada's response must be comprehensive.

Next steps

Foreign Affairs Canada has embarked on a major transformation to deliver a more sophisticated, agile and open approach to diplomacy. In the years to come, it will:

- Establish new program capacity to ensure that operations such as the proposed Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START) make a real difference in the lives of civilians suffering in failed and fragile societies;
- Lead whole-of-government efforts on strategies in countries and regions of the world, focusing initially on North America, rising powers and fragile states;
- Seek modernization of the multi-lateral architecture, and strengthen its capacity to tackle emerging and enduring global issues, such as sustainable development and health;
- Strengthen representation abroad in line with priorities in countries and regions;

- Mainstream public diplomacy to engage Canadians more intensively and reach out to international audiences;
- Explore innovative approaches to foreign policy challenges, such as a North American forum, a democracy council, a leaders' G20 (L20), and a pathfinders' network; and
- Modernize consular and passport operations to provide the best possible assistance to Canadians abroad.

The government is moving ahead rapidly to deliver on the *International Policy Statement*. Parliament is examining the documents, and its recommendations will be considered as part of the government's commitment to an ongoing review of the IPS and an annual statement on the progress of its implementation. ♣

The full text of the *International Policy Statement* is available on-line at www.international.gc.ca. To order a printed copy, contact the Enquiries Service by e-mail at engserv@international.gc.ca, or call (613) 944-4000 or 1 800 267-8376 (toll-free).

Five key priorities guide Canada's international engagement:

1. Revitalizing Canada's North American partnership by enhancing security and promoting prosperity.
2. Building a more secure world by countering terrorism, stabilizing failed and fragile states and combatting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
3. Increasing prosperity by strengthening Canada's competitiveness, enhancing commercial engagement and targeting support for Canadian businesses.
4. Promoting respect for human rights and building genuine development by sharing Canadian expertise to reform global governance and enhance local capacity.
5. Crafting a new multilateralism and flexible diplomacy to deal with international developments.

NEW EMBASSY NEW MESSAGE

Canada has opened a new embassy in Germany that celebrates the reunified and revitalized country and showcases the best of Canadian culture and technology.

Located in the heart of the city, within sight of the Brandenburg Gate and Reichstag and literally bridging the line that once separated East and West Berlin, the new embassy—Canada's first in Berlin—was opened by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson on April 29. With a theme of "*Kanada: Die neue Botschaft*" ("New Embassy/New Message"), the mission blends architectural, artistic, environmental and technological features to highlight the deepening political, business and cultural ties between the two countries.

Each day, hundreds of pedestrians are expected to use the building's Northwest Passage to cross between a major avenue called Ebertstrasse and the octagonal Leipziger Platz, which were formerly separated by the Berlin Wall. Suspended overhead the interior passageway is a 6.4-metre bronze canoe engraved with a map of Canada's major waterways, which was created by Canadian sculptor John McEwen.

In her speech to open the embassy, Ms. Clarkson recalled Canadian songwriter Stan Rogers, who sang of the Northwest Passage as "tracing one warm line through a land so wild and savage." Ms. Clarkson told the German dignitaries gathered at the event that as Rogers "recognized what the quest for the Northwest Passage meant to our history and to our identity as Canadians...may this building, in this land so rich and hopeful, be your passage to us and ours to you."

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, guest of honour at the opening, said the embassy will contribute to the character of the new centre of Berlin, while German filmmaker Wim Wenders commented that the building, like Canada, "is open to the outside and inside; it represents this beautiful country."

Natural light floods the building with a sense of openness, according

to architect Bruce Kuwabara of Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg in Toronto, the design lead for the consortium of three Canadian architectural firms that worked on the embassy. "The transparency represents Canada's inclusiveness," he says. "We are one of the most multicultural societies in the world."

The materials used in the design represent Canada's regional and geographic diversity. The exterior is faced with Manitoba Tyndall limestone, while inside are Eramosa marble from Ontario, Douglas fir from British Columbia and black granite and maple from Quebec. The materials naturally cool the building when temperatures rise, says Paul Dubois, Canada's Ambassador to Germany, a concept that "might also prove efficient in its diplomatic application."

Canadian art is featured throughout the new embassy. Five Canadian artists have created works, based on the theme of Canada's landscape, which are permanently integrated into the building's structure and design—the first time that a public call for commissioned art has been held for a Canadian mission. "In the era of globalization, intercultural understanding becomes more important than ever," says Mr. Dubois. "Artistic expression is of vital importance, both for the social cohesion of a nation and the possibility for its citizens to define their own values."

Built as a public-private partnership, the building also houses retail and residential space in the ground and upper floors not occupied by the chancery, integrating new construction and mixed uses into a historic location.

Over the coming months, a lively program of public events on culture, politics, trade and academic relations is planned for the embassy's conference rooms and auditorium.

Visitors to the building quickly become aware of the technology in the public areas. Plasma screens showing film shorts by young Canadian filmmakers placed along the Northwest Passage offer a window into Canada.



New embassy: Mechthild Dubois-Utters, Ambassador Paul Dubois, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and His Excellency John Ralston Saul tour the outside of the embassy, where a billboard announces Canada's "new message".



Historic location: A remaining section of the Berlin Wall covered with graffiti stands in front of the embassy on Leipziger Platz.

Berlin Mayor Klaus Wowereit opens the building's Northwest Passage, which is topped by a bronze canoe engraved with a map of Canada's major waterways.



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Embassy
(continued from page 19)

The Timber Hall, a 20-faceted conference space lined with Douglas fir and topped with a circular skylight, boasts leading-edge information and communications technology. In the multimedia centre on the ground level, visitors learn about Canada through interactive info-terminals known as "Canadian Smart Boards" and listening stations.

Environmental measures required by Berlin planning guidelines and intended to minimize energy costs and pollution include a "green" roof, an area of soil and hardy planting material designed in the form of the Mackenzie Delta by Canadian landscape architect Cornelia Oberlander.

Michael Blaschuk, Director of Professional and Technical Services at Foreign Affairs Canada, expects that visitors to the embassy will learn that Canada is much more than simply a nation of forests and lakes. "It's a two-part message," he explains. "We are green and environmentally aware, but at the same time we are about people, we are about technology, we're a cutting-edge nation."

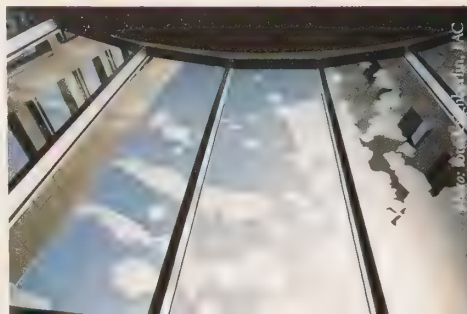
For more information on
Canada's new embassy in Berlin,
visit www.canada.de.



photo: fordesignberlin, FAX

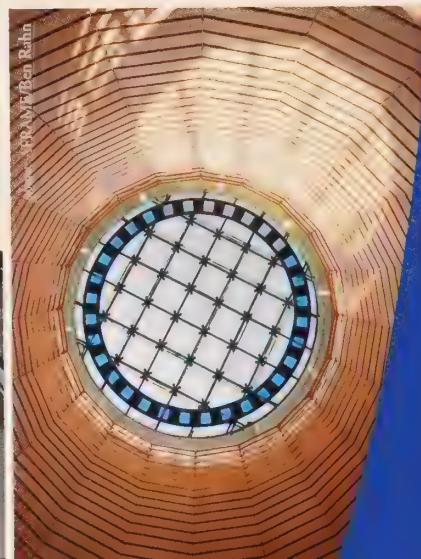
▲ *River – Rivière – Fluss* by Barbara Steinman, one of the artworks integrated into the building, is a granite and quartzite inlaid floor in the embassy's main reception area that looks like an ice floe or a bathymetric map of water depths.

▼ *Canadian Weather Patterns* by Barbara Astman depicts cloud patterns, based on satellite pictures of Earth, that are etched into the curved glass wall around the Timber Hall.



▲ *The river as thread, the canoe as needle* by John McEwan is a bronze canoe suspended over the Northwest Passage. Its engravings illustrate the routes across Canada taken by explorer Alexander Mackenzie in 1789 and 1793.

▼ *North* by Adrian Göllner, a compass rim skylight that floats just below the top of the Timber Hall, changing colour throughout the day depending on the light.



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Moving and Shaking

Canadian youth
make their mark

• Ten years after Dayton:
Lessons of Bosnia

• Canada's growing
role in Afghanistan

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Our cover

Simon Norris of Victoria, who spent six months in Latin America through the Internship of the Americas working for organizations involved in conservation, mountain bikes the Nevada Ausangate Circuit in the Andes near Cuzco, Peru.

photo: Miguel Enriquez

This page

Christopher Garrish of Montreal, on a job placement as a planner with the National Capital Authority in Canberra, Australia, shows that international youth programs aren't all play.

photo courtesy of Christopher Garrish

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WHAT I LEARNED IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Lord Paddy Ashdown is High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), a position created to oversee implementation of the civilian aspects of the Dayton Peace Agreement of December 14, 1995. Born in New Delhi and raised in Ireland, Ashdown served as a Royal Marines Officer, a diplomat and an elected member of Britain's House of Commons, leading the opposition Liberal Democrats from 1988 to 1999. He was appointed High Representative in 2002, with a mission to ensure that BiH is a peaceful, viable state on course to European integration. Ten years after the signing of the Dayton agreement that ended the war in the region, *Canada World View* invited Ashdown to write about the lessons of Bosnia for the international community in post-conflict societies.



Lord Paddy Ashdown: In Bosnia and Herzegovina the international community "learned a deeper lesson about our own struggle to find a basis for peace in the wider world."

In the 1960s, the charismatic Brazilian educationist Paulo Freire advanced the premise that "you can't teach until you are prepared to be taught." Freire argued that pupils will always rebel against one-way communication—where the teacher dispenses knowledge and the class is required simply to soak it up. The fundamental disequilibrium of one-way communication leads to alienation and resentment.

Freire's ideas, once radical, are now orthodox—one reason that children no longer sit in rows in classrooms, but sit instead in little groups where they help one another.

The Freire paradigm can be applied (alas this is too seldom the case) to international intervention in failed states. If we are not prepared to ask what the people of Afghanistan, East Timor, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Rwanda et al. are able to teach us, then our intervention will be met with a growing tide of resentment and alienation. This tide, in time, will overwhelm our best efforts to do good.

Yet there is a clear tendency for the international community to descend on failed states with answers.

This is fatal for nation-building. Yet, learning how to listen is easier said than done.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we embarked on a steep learning curve as the result of an initiative that began by chance.

At the end of 2002, I called for a campaign to "bulldoze" pointless regulations, so as to clear the way for new investment and job creation.

Neither I nor any of my staff knew exactly which bits of the business environment needed to be fixed—so we couldn't preach. This was, as it happens, a huge advantage. We had to listen and we had to learn.

Listening and learning were the hallmarks of the "Bulldozer Initiative."

For the international community the process was liberating, because we were not prescribing solutions to BiH problems. Our active participation in the process became increasingly redundant.

This model applies to politics just as much as it applies to business.

Bosnia and Herzegovina's recovery took on new momentum when the Euro-Atlantic integration process began to open up the real prospect of a prosperous and secure future. Moving into the Euro-integration path, BiH began to prepare itself for European Union and NATO membership, a process that has been experienced by other transition countries in Europe.

Notice the phrase: prepare itself. Progress depends entirely on the acceding country. They *know* what they have to do; they must strive to

The conflict

In the wars that characterized the fall of Yugoslavia in the 1990s, the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) was the most devastating. Between April 1992, when BiH declared independence, and December 1995, with the signing of the Dayton agreement, 250,000 people were killed and more than a million displaced from their homes in fighting among BiH's three main ethnic groups: Serbs, Croats and Bosnians. The conflict was characterized by ethnic cleansing, the targeting of civilians, the use of anti-personnel mines and ineffective efforts by the international community to quell the violence. The Dayton agreement created a loose federation overseen by the Office of the High Representative of the International Community in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

find the optimal ways—*according to their specific circumstances*—to do it.

Countries join the EU and NATO on their own merits, not on sufferance, and when they do join they make their own distinctive contribution.

They learn from us, and we certainly learn from them.

Bosnia and Herzegovina's contribution to the larger bodies that it now seeks to join derives from its particular geopolitical experience, its paradoxical tradition of unity through diversity that the Nobel Prize-winning Bosnian novelist Ivo Andric so skillfully evokes, a unity that comes from centuries of shared experience—of tragedy as well as triumph.

This is a powerful and compelling tradition, one that was challenged in the terrible bloodletting of the 1990s but that was not defeated. It is a tradition that Europe and the world must tap into, faced as we are by a new and endemic global instability masquerading under the guise of cultural or religious incompatibility.

BiH shows that the notion of incompatibility is fraudulent. We have to live together; we *can* live together.

The international community came to Bosnia and Herzegovina (more slowly and more tentatively than it should have done) in order to maintain peace. (I might add that Canada's contribution to this effort has from the beginning been substantial and robust; more than 40,000 Canadian peacekeepers served in BiH during and after the war and the Canadian government has maintained a multi-million dollar aid program, now focusing on rule of law, health and education projects.) Yet in BiH we have learned a deeper lesson about our own struggle to find a basis for peace in the wider world. The Bosnians taught us what was wrong with their business environment and how to fix it. They can teach us a great deal about what is wrong with our world and how to fix that, too. ♣

Find out more about Canada's continuing involvement in the Balkans through the Web sites of Canadian embassies in the region:

Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.international.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/country_bos-en.asp;

Croatia www.international.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/country_cro-en.asp;

Serbia and Montenegro
www.international.gc.ca/canadaeuropa/country_ser-en.asp.

Visit the Office of the High Representative at www.ohr.int.

Canada in the region

July 1992 – United Nations Protection Force opens the Sarajevo Airport for humanitarian flights under the command of Canadian Major-General Lewis Mackenzie.

September 1993 – Canadian troops fight Croatian forces in breach of a ceasefire agreement in the Medak Pocket—Canada's largest military engagement since the Korean War.

1996 to 1999 – Louise Arbour serves as chief prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, trying Slobodan Milosevic and others accused of war crimes.

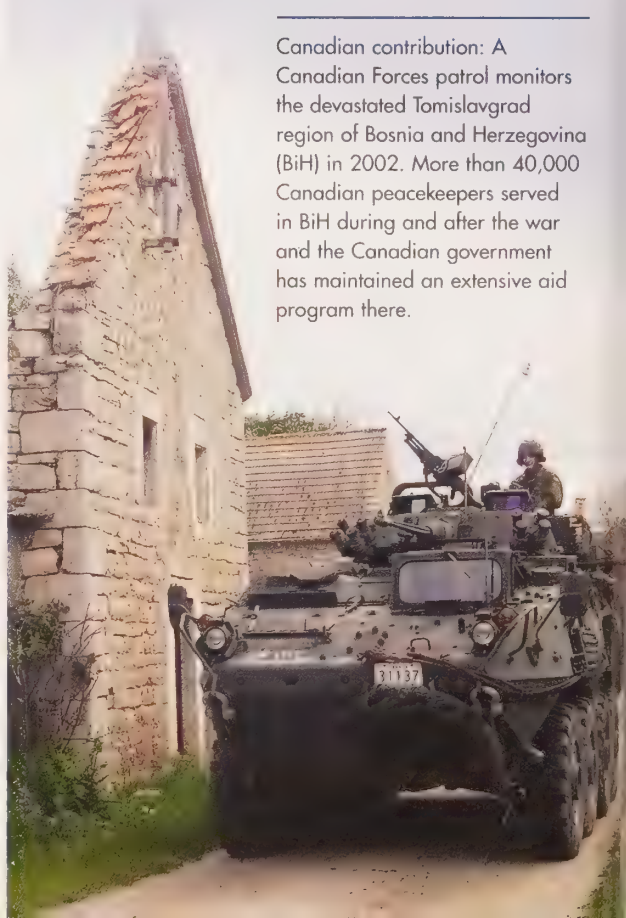
1997 – Canada sends RCMP and police officers to Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of a UN police mission. Six police officers continue to serve with what is now the EU police mission.

Spring 1999 – Canadian Forces aircraft participate in the 78-day NATO bombing campaign to end human rights abuses in Kosovo.

Summer 1999 – 7,000 Kosovar refugees come to Canada in a humanitarian evacuation. Although many eventually return to Kosovo, thousands of Canadians act as sponsors, volunteers and donors.

2003 – Canadian Brigadier-General Stuart Beare assumes command of one of the three brigades that make up NATO's mission in BiH.

Canadian contribution: A Canadian Forces patrol monitors the devastated Tomislavgrad region of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in 2002. More than 40,000 Canadian peacekeepers served in BiH during and after the war and the Canadian government has maintained an extensive aid program there.



CANADA'S WORLD YOUTH

"Younger men and women are asking that their voices be heard, that their issues be addressed and that their roles be recognized."

— Canadian intern Kevina Power

The voices of Canada's young people are being heard in the world as never before.

For several days next June, Canadian youth will be in the forefront as some 1,000 young people from around the globe converge on Vancouver for an opportunity to speak out on today's most crucial international issues.

They will be attending the World Youth Forum, the first phase of an important UN-sponsored global conference, the World Urban Forum, a biennial initiative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) that will be co-sponsored by the Government of Canada.

The ideas brought forward from the youth event will play an important role in the larger forum as it works toward meeting the UN's ambitious millennium development goals, which commit countries to reducing poverty and improving education and health in the world by 2015.

"We need young people in the same room at the same time as all the world leaders, the local leaders, all of those people who are making decisions on your behalf," says federal Labour and Housing Minister Joe Fontana, whose department has a special interest in UN-Habitat.

Among the many people working to organize the events is Kevina Power, who is helping to coordinate youth and civil society participation in the conference as an intern sponsored by the Environmental Youth Alliance in Vancouver and by UN-Habitat. Power, 28, a native of Corner Brook, Newfoundland, who recently earned a master's degree in conflict analysis and management at Royal Roads University in British Columbia, says that Canada is a natural choice to host the youth forum.

"Not only was UN-Habitat founded in Vancouver almost 30 years ago," she says, "Canada is a progressive country that has a history of including civil society on the world stage and that is dedicated to allowing young people to use their voice in forming—and informing—policy."

Indeed, in a shrinking world where communications are erasing borders with every passing day, Canadian



photo: courtesy of the One Stop Youth Information Center, Nairobi, Kenya

youth are taking an increasing interest, and playing a larger role, in global issues.

This is in keeping with the government's renewed effort to ensure that Canada realizes its potential economically and diplomatically on the world stage—a goal of the country's International Policy Statement, which was released this past spring and outlines a targeted approach to foreign relations based on Canada's strengths and values.

International youth programs

Young Canadians are also forging international connections in ever-greater numbers—through work-abroad programs, international internships, trade promotion opportunities and educational exchanges—and sharing Canadian values and expertise along the way.

Michel Gigault, who oversees four international youth programs at FAC, says participation in the programs has increased by 27 percent in the last three years. Last year, 22,820 Canadian young people took part in working holiday, student work abroad, co-op education and young workers' exchange programs.

The programs provide young people with the opportunity to gain professional experience or work overseas for varying periods. While the Canadian government doesn't subsidize

Youth working together for change: (left to right) George Mgoph, David Driskell, Faith Mullumba, Canadian intern Kevina Power, Robert Njoroge and Hassan Abdikydor meet in preparation for the World Youth Forum to talk about life in the Kibera Slum in the heart of Nairobi, Kenya



participants, it facilitates such exchanges through reciprocal agreements that allow an equal number of youth from other countries to come to Canada under the same terms. Australia topped the list as the country from which most youth came and to which most young Canadians travelled, followed by the United Kingdom, France and New Zealand. This year, with expanded reciprocal agreements, it's expected that 47,000 young people from around the world will participate in international youth programs involving Canada.

The exchanges have an important impact, Gigault says, because they allow young people from other countries to experience first-hand Canada's multicultural, multi-ethnic nature and Canadian values such as fairness, openness, justice and equality. Moreover, the kinds of people who take part in such ventures tend by nature to be energetic and entrepreneurial. "They also see the quality of Canadian goods and services, and they might turn out to be our future trading partners."

There is no shortage of foreign students looking

to come to Canada for a year abroad, according to David Smith, Director of the Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP) at Travel Cuts, the not-for-profit student travel agency that coordinates SWAP for Foreign Affairs Canada.

Such is Canada's appeal for younger travellers that it ranks fourth as a destination for youth, compared with ninth as a destination for all tourists, Smith says. This past summer, no fewer than 3,000 overseas youth were at work in the Toronto area alone, and many gathered at a club once a week to share their experiences of living and working far from home. "The only complaint is that the program is too short," Smith says.

For their part, young Canadians who go abroad learn about other cultures, develop language skills and gain a clearer perspective on the world and on Canada, fostering greater pride in their own country, Gigault says.

But that's just the beginning of the programs available to young Canadians with a yen to live, work or study abroad. Several federal government departments finance international internships for youth under the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy.

The Canadian International Development Agency's International Youth Internship Program offers Canadian post-secondary graduates who are between 19 and 30 the chance to gain work experience in international development.

More than 3,000 Canadian graduates have benefited from FAC's Young Professionals International (YPI) since its inception in 1997, including 200 who have worked in countries with difficult human rights situations. Another 125 placements have contributed to the development of Canadian capacity in the areas of peacebuilding, defence and international security.

Among the government-funded initiatives is the Circumpolar Young Leaders Program, managed by the International Institute for Sustainable Development and designed to enhance awareness of sustainable development issues among youth who live in Canada's Far North, and the Young Professionals International Mine Action Program, which provides opportunities for youth to support the work of demining organizations around the world.



Tim Clark, seen here on Lake Nahuel Huapi in the Neuquen Province of the Argentinean Patagonia, says that a job placement in Chile "changed my life in ways I would never have imagined," leading to two jobs in Temuco, Chile.



Career success

These programs help young people go places. For example, about 80 percent of past participants in YPI are now employed, the vast majority of them in jobs with an international focus, either in Canada or abroad.

Tim Clark, 28, who has a master's degree from York University in Toronto, snagged a YPI placement in 2004 at the National Statistical Institute in Santiago, Chile. The placement is administered by the Hispanic Development Council, a not-for-profit planning agency that works with the City of Toronto on social and economic policy.

Clark helped develop a registry of Chileans living abroad and contributed to a report to inform government policies on strengthening the political, economic and cultural links between members of the Chilean diaspora and their homeland. At the end of his internship, he was hired as the coordinator of the Centre for Sustainable Development in Temuco, Chile, and as a professor of anthropology at the Catholic University of Temuco.

"I would never have dreamed that my internship would result in the chance to run a research centre and teach at a university," Clark says. "It changed my life in ways I would never have imagined."

Cross-Atlantic ties

Always popular, Europe remains a key destination for young Canadians wishing to study, work or volunteer abroad. Framework agreements and other types of bilateral arrangements related to youth mobility have been established with 12 European countries, and discussions to make such travel possible are under way with another 10.

"We're promoting the image of Canada as a young, modern, dynamic and diversified country," says Carole Robert, Youth Mobility and Academic Relations Coordinator within the Europe Sector at FAC. "Young Canadians develop skills that will help them integrate into

the global, knowledge-based society, while youth from Europe discover Canada's expertise and bilingual heritage."

The Canada-European Community Agreement on Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Training encourages joint academic projects among higher education institutions on both sides of the Atlantic. More than 125 post-secondary institutions in Canada and Europe have taken part in the program, which encourages the use of new learning technologies to maximize student participation.

In addition to the many government programs, a wide range of opportunities available through non-governmental and other organizations enable young people to satisfy their wanderlust while developing their skills and helping others.

More than 6,000 young Canadians, for example, have participated in the last 50 years in eight- to 12-week internships arranged through the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE). With 80 member countries, this non-governmental organization aims to promote international understanding and goodwill while furthering participants' technical and professional development.

Canadian employers who have hired foreign students through IAESTE, as well as Canadian students who have worked abroad through the program, are enthusiastic. Vittoria Bellissimo, a student at Queen's University in Ontario, describes her work on global positioning systems maps at the University of Maribor in Slovenia as a "truly rewarding" experience.

"Participation in an IAESTE exchange is a great way to practise your trade and see new parts of the world simultaneously," she adds.

Focus on Canada

The Canadian government also encourages the study of Canada abroad. Around the world, there are 26 national and international Canadian studies associations, with

At home in the world: More than 3,000 Canadian graduates have benefited from the Young Professionals International program since its inception, heading out to all corners of the world. For more photos and information see *Canada World View* on-line at www.international.gc.ca/canada-magazine

hundreds of Canadian studies centres actively involved in researching and teaching about Canada.

"Diplomacy isn't always state to state; it can also be between publics, between people," says Andrea Clark, who works in International Academic Relations at FAC. "Creating the opportunity for personalized relations and experiences between people is a type of soft diplomacy that has become increasingly important in a global world."

Canadian studies provides an opportunity for long-term relationship building with reputable foreign academics. The focus may vary between institutions and between regions, Clark says. Canadian culture and literature, for example, are particularly popular in Europe, while in Latin America and Asia there is more interest in the Canadian model of education, health and political systems.

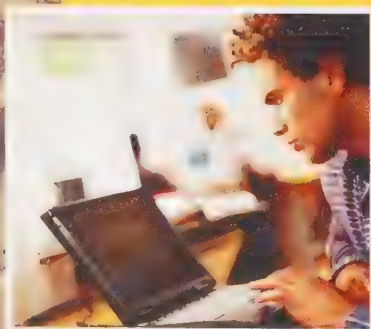
International exposure

Whether it's projecting Canada to the world or projecting the world to Canada, young people are on board. A survey conducted for FAC in February 2004 suggests that more than 90 percent of young people aged 18 to 35 believe that it is important to be exposed to and have opportunities to participate in other cultures. Some 80 percent believe that it's important for Canada's young people to participate in international youth programs.



Canadian strengths and values: (left to right) Tracy Cameron, Mara Jones, Elizabeth Urbach and Melanie Kok pose with their gold medals after an award ceremony for the lightweight women's quadruple sculls at the 2005 World Rowing Championships in Gifu, Japan, in September.

A remarkable 92 percent of those surveyed believe there is a lot to learn from working in another country, and 77 percent said they like the idea of working abroad to finance an extended visit to a foreign country. About three quarters believe they can foster contacts that can help them become future entrepreneurs, while 65 percent want to open doors to diplomatic careers.



Get connected

There are lots of on-line resources for young Canadians looking to work, study or travel abroad.

Government of Canada international internship programs

Young Professionals International
www.international.gc.ca/ypi-jpi

International Youth Internship Program
www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/internships

International Environmental Youth Corps
www.eco.ca

NetCorps Canada International
www.netcorps-cyberjeunes.org

Government of Canada international youth programs

International Youth Programs
www.international.gc.ca/123go

Destination Europe: Youth on the Move
www.youthonthemove.gc.ca

Other international programs

IAESTE Canada
www.queensu.ca/iaeste

AIESEC Canada
www.aiesec.ca

CUSO
www.cuso.org

Global Citizens for Change
www.citizens4change.org

VSO Canada
www.vsocanada.org

Youth Challenge International
www.yci.org

Regardless of the country they would like to visit, the survey found, the reasons for wanting to travel are often the same. "Many young people say that they have always wanted to see a particular country, find the culture interesting, or want to learn the language." Many choose countries where they have an existing familiarity with the culture and language or have family.

Effecting change

Beyond seeking experience abroad for their own personal growth, many young Canadians are also intent on shaping Canada's role in the world—and the world itself.

While considering the government's new International Policy Statement in May, members of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade heard from an entire panel of participants speaking from a youth perspective.

One of those who addressed the committee was David Eaves, a member of Canada25, a non-partisan organization dedicated to engaging Canadians aged 20 to 35 in public policy debate. Each year, Canada25 prepares a report on an issue chosen by its members, basing its recommendations on extensive research and consultation. This year's report is on foreign policy and is entitled *From Middle to Model Power: Recharging Canada's Role in the World*.

"The goal of our report is not to provide the answer to Canada's foreign policy debate," explains Eaves, the lead author of the report. "Our intention is to provide a compelling and challenging vision of Canada's foreign policy that will push the thinking."

Among other things, the organization recommends that international programs for young Canadians be vastly expanded in the belief that international experience is an essential element of any 21st-century education.

"Canada has an enormous advantage because of our immigrant population," Eaves told the parliamentary committee in May. "Many people already speak a second language, are familiar with a second culture and are comfortable with it. It's one of the beauties of Canada. We as a community recognize that when people get together with different perspectives, there is a need to reconcile—there's a need to learn about the other."

YPI participant Kevina Power agrees. She will spend the next six months in Nairobi, Kenya, working on models of engagement for the June 2006 World Urban Forum and related events, including the youth forum. For Power, the UN's millennium goals simply can't be met without the full participation and support of the world's young people.

Vancouver will be an amazing opportunity to continue to motivate the next generation of planners and world leaders in sustainable development," she says. "It's going to put young people on an equal playing field with all the other interested parties." 🍀



International immersion: Annik Lussier covers a demonstration in Cairo as a staff writer in 2002 for the *Cairo Times*.

Making a difference

Four years ago, Annik Lussier was a young reporter working at the *Cairo Times* through an international job placement sponsored by the National Council on Canada-Arab Relations in Ottawa.

The experience made a big impression. Today Lussier, 29, is the projects coordinator for the council and is seeking a career as a foreign service officer in order to help further Canada's role abroad. "In Cairo," says Lussier, "I saw the kind of work that could be done."

Lussier was among several spirited young Canadians profiled three years ago in a *Canada World View* article (see Issue 17, Autumn 2002) on youth programs supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (now Foreign Affairs Canada) who have gone on to bigger challenges after gaining international work experience. Combined with Lussier's training, the six-month internship made possible a posting of nearly two years in Cairo, followed by a seven-month editing stint at the *China Daily* in Beijing.

Now, as a coordinator at the council offering practical advice to interns, "I can really give my personal views on how I lived the program," says Lussier, a self-described social activist who believes that Canada has a special role abroad. "We have such expertise in civil society, in governance. We're helping with capacity building."

In Morden, Manitoba, Darryl Toews, 35, and his wife Meredith Daun, 26, both former interns of the Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program, have deepened their commitment to drawing attention to abandoned landmines throughout the world.

Following their experience in the program (Toews from 1999 to 2000 and Daun from 2000 to 2001), the couple created the Manitoba Campaign to Ban Landmines. "Being youth ambassadors gave us a first-hand look at the landmine issue and [a chance] to be part of the movement to eliminate them," Toews says in an interview from Rwanda, where he is observing efforts to help landmine victims. The youth program, he adds, "provided us with a lot of quality work experience and skills development that have benefited us in our current work."

For his part, Philip Strong, 32, initially thought he was headed for Uganda in 2001 as a youth intern, but wound up in Washington, D.C., instead—and has remained there since his placement with the American Council of the Blind.

Strong, a Newfoundland native who has had a personal involvement in advocacy issues since he lost his sight in 1987, has duties today as an advocacy specialist for the council that include policy work on access and safety for the visually impaired in the area of transportation.

The internship program, Strong recounts, "opened up a whole different realm of opportunities, both employment-wise and in terms of life experience."

Many former interns say they found that the placements made real their aspirations for effecting positive change in the world.

"It demonstrated to us that we can make a difference," says Toews, "and we wanted to stay involved."

HOMeward BOUND

Two young Canadian artists of Arabic origin journey back to the Middle East and North Africa, promoting their adopted country and rediscovering their roots.

In December 2004, Julie Nesrallah, a Canadian mezzo-soprano with Lebanese origins, performed for the first time in the Middle East. A few months later, Lynda Thalie, a Canadian pop singer born in Algeria, returned to her home country for the first time in 11 years to perform three groundbreaking concerts, including one on Canada Day. On and off stage, the two singers wowed audiences, delivering powerful messages about Canada's cultural mosaic and the ability of young women everywhere to pursue their dreams.

Nesrallah, a 37-year-old Ottawa native, last visited Lebanon with her mother and grandmother at the age of five. Her desire to return to the region began in Montreal with a concert at McGill University's Evening for Peace in March 2000 with Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan in

the audience. For the next four years, while performing with North America's leading opera companies, orchestras and ensembles, Nesrallah worked to organize a tour of the Middle East.

It seemed that logistics and security concerns would keep her dream at bay until the Canadian embassy in Amman invited Nesrallah to perform last December in a benefit concert dedicated to disadvantaged young women who want to study music in Canada. Fresh from her role of Suzuki in Vancouver Opera's production of *Madame Butterfly*, Nesrallah flew 18 hours to Jordan for a four-day experience that was unforgettable—both for her and the young people she met.

"There were 650 people in the room for the gala, and you could have heard a pin drop," she says. "It was one of the most incredible performing experiences of my life. There was so much generous attention and applause." After the concert, it took 45 minutes for her to reach the Jordanian royal family, which was in attendance, Nesrallah says. "So many people wanted to connect with me."

The concert, hosted by the Canadian embassy, raised \$80,000 through ticket sales, a raffle and a live auction. The money will go to the Princess Haya Endowment Fund, which will provide young women with

music scholarships to Canadian universities as well as training in English, public speaking and leadership.

In addition to performing in the concert, Nesrallah visited two music conservatories to speak with young men and women about her career. "I could see kids looking at me. Their eyes said, 'you're a musician. You're actually doing it!'"

Through the gala performance and her encounters with students, Nesrallah became a role model for aspiring young musicians—especially women—and gained something in return. "Everyone looked like me. I felt I was with 'my people.'"

Lynda Thalie, who left Algeria at 16 in 1994 to settle in Montreal, Quebec, was equally moved by her connection with her homeland. "There is a lot of nostalgia for Algeria in my songs," says Thalie, whose music has been described as joyous, sensual and mysterious. "Algeria is part of my heart."

In her triumphant return, Thalie brought this unique fusion to enthusiastic audiences, mixing what she calls the "honey" of Algeria with the "maple syrup" of Canada. The tour, coinciding with both Canada Day and the anniversary of Algeria's independence on July 5, celebrated 40 years of relations between the two countries. Says Robert Peck, Canada's Ambassador to Algeria, it also marked a new era for Algerians, who are emerging from a period often referred to as "*les années noires*," during which terrorism shook the very foundations of the country.

photo: Robert Echeverry



Canadian opera singer Julie Nesrallah as role model: "I could see kids looking at me. Their eyes said, 'you're a musician. You're actually doing it!'"



Lynda Thalie's band (left to right) Michel Bruno, Thalie, Denis Courchesne and Alexandre Ouellet in Algeria: "I am very proud to go into the world and represent Canada."



Photo: Patrick C. Brown

"There were stories of people afraid of playing piano in their apartments because it might have been considered 'western,' and thus an act of defiance," Mr. Peck explains. "Algeria is coming out of a shell, and Lynda's return marked a renaissance, bringing a message of hope and optimism, especially to young people."

At the concert in Algiers, girls stood on their chairs and threw roses to the performer and women in traditional hijabs danced on the stage. "In my 22 years in diplomacy, I've never seen an event that had such an emotional impact," Peck says.

The concerts, broadcast throughout La Francophonie from Paris to Montreal, were an emotional homecoming for Thalie. At one, she was presented with a framed copy of her birth certificate. In another memorable moment, she played a traditional Acadian song. "Everyone was clapping their hands along with the tapping of the spoons," Thalie remembers. "I actually think they liked that song the best."

Like Julie Nesrallah, Lynda Thalie accepts her role as a cultural ambassador for Canada and as a model for young women.

"When I left Algeria, I was well received by Canada, which is known for its generosity," she says. "I had a chance to live here and develop my career, so I am very proud to go into the world and represent Canada." 🍀

For more information, visit www.julienesrallah.com and www.lyndathalie.com.



Youth gets out of town

Sebastian Cluer has travelled widely to see—and to show other young people—the world.

Nightingale Productions hired Cluer as the director and cinematographer for a new teen travel series called "Get Out of Town" in an internship sponsored by Foreign Affairs Canada and the Canadian Film and Television Production Association (CFTPA). For four months last year the Ryerson University graduate from Toronto shot and directed the show in 10 cities around the world, including London, Paris, Lucerne, Munich, Mexico City, New York, Washington and Sydney. The production is airing on TVOntario and SCN Saskatchewan as well as specialty networks such as WAM! in the U.S.

At the helm of his own series at the age of 30, Cluer says he had "more creative control than I ever had before." The crew of six people was also joined by Oscar-nominated producer Erin Faith Young. They hired a teen co-host and found another local teen in each city visited who enlightened young viewers on the culture, history and sites of his or her hometown.

Sebastian Cluer went to Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia, to shoot a segment of the youth series

From Costa Rica's steaming rainforest to a frigid Swiss mountain, Cluer adjusted to extreme environments and a stressful schedule, working up to 16 hours a day, with only about three days to spend in each city.

"It teaches you how to be efficient, self-sufficient and adaptive to circumstances," he says, adding that the internship "has been a great experience to add to my career."

Cluer has been asked to be involved with a second season of "Get Out of Town," now in pre-production, and is continuing to work on a number of television and documentary projects, including as a cinematographer with Breakthrough Film & Television on the series "Kenny vs. Spenny" premiering on Showcase and GSN this fall.

Cluer's advice for students and new graduates? If you can't find a job, volunteer in your field of interest. "It's a win-win situation," he says, "to be behind closed doors and learn and work with professionals."

For more information on CFTPA job placements visit www.cftpa.ca

ASSIGNMENT TO BEIJING

Jennie Chen heads out on a rotation in Canada's foreign service with some impressive credentials.

For a junior diplomat on her first foreign posting, Jennie Chen has a remarkably robust portfolio.

Chen, 29, takes up a position this fall as Third Secretary in the Canadian Embassy in Beijing speaking fluent Mandarin, with two degrees in Asian studies as well as family ties to the country and lengthy experience working in the region.

She's among the gifted Canadians who enter the country's foreign service, high achievers who sign on to promote Canadian interests abroad while carrying a strong sense of how much Canada can contribute internationally.

"There's pride for me in being part of something that's doing so much good," says Chen. "It's not just Foreign

Affairs Canada but our NGOs, our participation in the World Health Organization, the Red Cross and in Médecins Sans Frontières. It's a testament to our country."

Undergraduate studies in international relations and Asian history at the University of British Columbia inspired the Vancouver-born Chen to work abroad. Her father was a Chinese diplomat from Hunan province who was posted to Ottawa in the 1960s, where he met her mother, an immigrant from Shanghai. A shift in China's rule ended her father's term, at which point the family stayed in Canada and moved to the West Coast.

Chen's first foreign job came through a one-year internship in 1999 as a trade development officer at the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok. "Seeing how a society has adapted to so much change over such a short period of time, finding it such a colourful, amazing place to be, I learned to appreciate the beauty and complexities of a culture without my pre-existing biases getting in the way."

Following her stint in Bangkok, Chen was engaged by the Canadian consulate in Shanghai to work on the logistics for a Team Canada trade mission to the region. She returned to Canada to complete a master's degree in Asian Studies at McGill University in Montreal.

She applied to become a foreign service officer in 2001 and successfully navigated the tough, year-long recruitment process. Competition for the service is legendary: each year more than 5,000 Canadians apply and complete a battery of tests, while just 300 to 400 are interviewed and perhaps 75 to 100—less than two percent of original applicants—are

hired in the trade, political and immigration streams.

Chen's apprenticeship has included French training, a year as a departmental spokesperson in Ottawa and a four-month assignment at Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

There have been challenges. Despite growing up in a home where Mandarin was spoken, Chen required training to bring her language skills up to a working level. She has also found that her Asian appearance can create "identity confusion" abroad. "Visually, I'm 100 percent Chinese and that negates the fact that I'm Canadian for many people."

She views her posting as a chance to reach out to China in mutually constructive ways, especially in social areas. "In recent years we have witnessed the borderless-ness of the environmental and health issues that touch our two countries," she observes. "Canada has much to offer in these fields, and if I can somehow be a part of building active relationships toward the resolution of these issues, that's something I would like to do."

Chen recognizes both in herself and her peers joining Canada's foreign service that youthfulness has a connection to such idealism. "There are so many young people in this country who want to do good," she remarks. "The challenge is to channel and focus that energy. I consider myself fortunate to have this chance." 🍁

Find out about applying for a position in Canada's foreign service at www.international.gc.ca/departement/service.



Diplomat Jennie Chen: "I consider myself fortunate to have this chance."

INTERNATIONAL NOTEBOOK

Mélanie Bécharde is a reporter and photographer with the *Fort Frances Times*, a community newspaper in northwestern Ontario. Bécharde, 31, a native of Pain Court, Ontario, a francophone community east of Windsor, has tried her hand at several careers and travelled widely, including studying French literature in Grenoble, France, and teaching English to children in Shenzhen, China. While studying journalism at Humber College in Toronto in 2003, Bécharde participated in International Notebook, a program offered by Foreign Affairs Canada to give journalism students who aspire to become international affairs reporters an opportunity to meet with foreign policy makers and learn about the department's mandate.



When I moved to Fort Frances two years ago, I expected a little culture shock. I had finished journalism school only a month before receiving the offer of employment at the *Fort Frances Times*, and knew I would have to be willing to relocate to build up some experience in newspapers.

What I never expected when I arrived in this relatively isolated community of 8,000 was to meet people who would transport me to one of my favourite places on earth: China.

A few months after starting my new job, I met Lawrence Eustace, a local lawyer involved in a Canadian aid project in eastern China. The initial aim of the Pro Bono China Outreach Project when it was set up in 2000 had been to provide a model drinking-water system for two isolated villages in Shandong province. But when organizers saw villagers' living conditions, they quickly expanded their list of goals to include rebuilding a medical clinic that had burned down and renovating the local school.

Eustace recommended that I speak to Mark Bujold, then a 21-year-old Fort Frances native studying to be a mechanical engineering technician

at Confederation College in Thunder Bay. Bujold had just returned from six weeks in Shandong working alongside Norm Becker, an engineer in Windsor who had started the China project.

Having taught English for six months in 1998 in China—where I fell in love with the rapidly changing country, its ancient history blended with an ambition to become an ultra-modern economic powerhouse—I was particularly attracted to the story.

Interviewing the young student had me reflecting on my own experiences and observations of the Middle Kingdom. Boundless generosity in the midst of crippling poverty. Smiles of welcome for complete strangers. Diligence, determination and hard work. These were the Chinese that he described, the same as those I remembered from my own time there.

While China had shown that teaching was perhaps not the best career path for me, for Bujold it was a jumping-off point. He came back here determined to do well in his studies and use his skills to help others. "In China I saw what I can be and what I can do," says Bujold, who has now completed his engineering course. "I'd rather

work for people and actually make a difference."

The Pro Bono China Outreach Project is remarkable not only in its scope, but in its ability to draw Canadians from various backgrounds, communities and ages together to put their particular skills to work in international cooperation.

But, as I found during my own time abroad, the rewards are richest for youths. They take away a better understanding of their career of choice—and the world they live in.

"It's such a lovely thing to watch the maturing a person undergoes when they have an experience like this," Norm Becker says of the students who have participated. "They come back better citizens, and better people." ♣

Mélanie Bécharde won a 2004 CIDA Award for Excellence in Writing on International Cooperation for her reporting on the Pro Bono China Outreach Project, which you can read by searching the archives at www.fftimes.com. Find out about FAC's International Notebook at www.internationalnotebook.gc.ca.

Rich rewards: Mélanie Bécharde atop the Great Wall of China at Simatai, northeast of Beijing in the Jundu Mountains, in July 2000.

SCHOOLS IN CANADIAN STYLE

A new private university in Cairo will offer the best of Canadian higher education in an Egyptian setting—as well as long-term benefits for both countries.

A new university opens its doors in Cairo this fall with a distinctly Canadian look and feel. Al-Ahram Canadian University, an educational hybrid set up to deliver the best of Canadian higher education in an Egyptian academic setting, takes in its first contingent of 1,000 students in September.

Students at the new university, which has a 200-acre, \$180-million campus on the outskirts of Cairo, will take English-language courses using curricula, teaching methods and administrative practices set out by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). They

will graduate with degrees equal to those offered by Canadian universities.

“We want people who are well prepared, well trained and well educated according to the Canadian system,” says Dr. Farouk Ismail, president of the private institution. “We are committed to preparing young

individuals from Egypt and abroad to be leaders and intellectuals, and to instilling in them the critical thinking that underpins responsible citizenship and social and ethical responsiveness in the global knowledge society.”

photo: courtesy of Al-Ahram



The Al-Ahram Canadian University campus: Delivering the best of Canadian higher education in an Egyptian academic setting.

The university is a business venture of the state-controlled Al-Ahram Establishment, a diverse media empire that includes the largest-circulation Arabic daily newspaper in the Middle East, *Al-Ahram*. The media organization hired the AUCC as technical advisors to create a new institution from scratch—one that breaks from Egyptian tradition.

For example, embracing Canadian-style education means a shift in focus to “student-led research” as opposed to rote learning, as well as the use of Canadian reading materials and the application of successful Canadian innovations such as cooperative education and internships that embed practical experience into the curriculum. A common first year gives students a broad foundation instead of immediate specialization in their field of study.

“I need the Canadian method of education to be here in Egypt,” says Ismail, a former president of Cairo University who was appointed by President Hosni Mubarak as chairman of the education and research committee of the Egyptian senate.

The new university, developed through face-to-face meetings and other consultations between Canadian and Egyptian professors and education officials, promises an experience that meets academic standards in both countries.

“We are not taking a Canadian curriculum and imposing it in Egypt,” says Walid Madhoun, the AUCC’s project leader. “We are showing the Egyptians a curriculum development model that will lead to a curriculum that is commensurate in quality to that in Canada.”

While there are a number of bilateral educational activities between Canadian universities and those of other countries, this is the first to happen on such a scale, making it groundbreaking for Canada’s academic and political relations abroad. Several notable Canadians will serve on the institution’s board of trustees, including Lloyd Axworthy, president of the University of Winnipeg; Lise Bissonnette, the chair and chief executive officer of the National Library of Quebec; Philip MacKinnon,



University president Dr. Farouk Ismail says the private institution will produce graduates who are “well prepared, well trained and well educated according to the Canadian system.”



Canada's Ambassador to Egypt; and Michel de Salaberry, the previous ambassador to Egypt. As well, Egyptian scholars now living in Canada will make up about 40 percent of the initial group of 50 to 60 faculty members.

"As countries look to expand their capacity to offer quality higher education to meet the growing demands of their citizens, many will seek to cooperate with Canadian universities," predicts Karen McBride, vice-president of international relations for the AUCC.

Jean-Philippe Tachdjian, Deputy Director of International Trade Canada's Education Marketing Group, who was based in Cairo when the project first started, sees the university as offering long-term benefits for Canada.

"In the future, thousands of Egyptians and people from throughout the Middle East will proudly say they are graduates of Al-Ahram Canadian University," Tachdjian says. "As these graduates come into positions of influence, there will be very positive consequences for Canada in terms of public diplomacy, trade

and political relations with people in the region."

The university will grow in phases. In the first, four Canadian universities that are members of the AUCC have been matched with the institution's initial four faculties: mass communication and journalism (Carleton University); computer science (École Polytechnique de Montréal); business administration (McMaster University); and pharmacy (Memorial University). Additional Canadian institutions will join as Al-Ahram expands; by 2010, the university is expected to have its full complement of 12 liberal arts and professional faculties and a population of 10,000 students.

Carleton University team leader Allan Thompson, an assistant professor of journalism, says he and his colleagues are offering wide-ranging advice, from how to set up co-op job placements to which Canadian textbooks should be used in the classroom. "It's not about creating a mirror image of Carleton in Egypt," he says. "It is an Egyptian-based journalism faculty that meets Canadian standards."

For Canada's scholars, he adds, the opportunity to assist in the birth of a new university—a rarity at home—is remarkable.

That's also true for Ismail. After more than 40 years in higher education, the former engineering dean is eager to adopt Canadian teaching practices that better serve Egypt's fast-growing post-secondary population.

"We have to prepare graduates to meet the requirements of this increasingly global world," he observes. "We have to open all doors and learn from others." 🍁

A world of educational opportunities

What better way to discover the world, develop new skills and interact with different cultures than to study in a foreign country?

Young people are increasingly interested in pursuing such opportunities, and the demand for international scholarships—both from Canadians interested in going abroad and from international students wanting to study in Canada—is on the rise.

Governments around the world have recognized the value of such international exchanges and have created programs to help alleviate some of the cost of studying overseas. Canadians wishing to study abroad and foreign students interested in coming to Canada can benefit from Canada's active participation in multilateral and bilateral education agreements with a number of foreign countries including Chile, China, Columbia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Russia, South Korea and Spain.

Additional opportunities are also available to Canadians through Canada's membership in the Commonwealth, La Francophonie and the Organization of American States. Scholarships offered through these organizations and their member countries apply to graduate and post-graduate studies and research, range from six months to four years in length and generally cover admission fees, travel costs, monthly allocations and health insurance.

Those interested in studying overseas who would like more information on country-specific criteria and how to apply for assistance from the Government of Canada or foreign governments should visit the main Web site on Canadian and international scholarship programs at www.scholarships.gc.ca.

International students from La Francophonie member countries are also eligible to apply for scholarships available through Le programme canadien de bourses de la Francophonie. More information can be found at www.pcbf.qc.ca and a complete list of member countries at www.francophonie.org.

MAJOR LEAGUE SUCCESS

Through Junior Team Canada trade missions, young entrepreneurs are opening doors for themselves and for Canadian business.

Candice Bazinet started knocking on the doors of companies in Ottawa's biotechnology sector last spring. Her pitch: let me represent you and sell your products in China and Hong Kong.

Prospects such as Toby Shannan, vice-president of sales and marketing at DNA Genotek, were skeptical when they first heard from Bazinet, a 24-year-old student at the University of Ottawa's school of management. However, Shannan, whose firm sells devices for collecting DNA to scientists and researchers developing molecular roadmaps for disease, was quickly convinced by Bazinet's grasp of her business. "After a couple of minutes of listening to Candice, I thought she could do anything."

Bazinet, from Blind River, Ontario, is one of thousands of Canadian youths aged 16 to 25 who have plunged into the global marketplace through Junior Team Canada (JTC). A 14-year partnership between the public and private sectors and sponsored by International Trade Canada, the program equips youths with the skills, knowledge and experience to compete in the global economy.

The program has a number of facets. For example, young exporters are sent on Canadian trade missions with the Prime Minister or Minister



Nils Engelstad in Beijing's Tiananmen Square in 2005 while volunteering on a Junior Team Canada mission: Going beyond borders.

of International Trade. There are also biannual JTC missions where teams of youths such as Bazinet travel to foreign markets to meet with industry and government leaders and explore business opportunities on behalf of sponsoring companies, preparing market briefs upon their return.

"We gave Candice a list of 24 contacts in Hong Kong, and she came up with an exhaustive and amazing report," recalls Shannan, adding that DNA Genotek can directly attribute at least one contract to Bazinet's role.

Amy Giroux, who directs Global Vision, the organization that manages the JTC program, says that the process of becoming a participant in one of the JTC missions is highly competitive. For the 2005 mission to Brazil from August 11 to 27, the program accepted just 35 out of some 500 applicants. To apply, young people "brand" themselves in a 50-word statement and identify their skills, approach and target sector. Once accepted, participants must match the \$4,000 in funding that the program provides for the mission by asking companies in their selected sectors to hire them as junior consultants.

"You really put your neck on the line with those cold calls, but it's an important lesson to show that you can provide 'value added,'" says

Nils Engelstad, from London, Ontario. In 1998 Engelstad, then just 18, convinced Hetek Solutions, an engineering consulting firm in London, to defray his travel costs for the JTC mission to Malaysia and Thailand.

"We were looking at doing work in Malaysia, so it was a good opportunity to get involved," says Hetek president Wayne Hennigar. "Nils was a very progressive young man, and we were impressed with his credentials." In fact, the following summer, the firm hired Engelstad as a researcher.

Candice Bazinet also found employment with one of the three companies that sponsored her recent mission, a biotech start-up firm that has hired her to help prepare for its launch into the marketplace. "After all the cold calls through JTC, it's easy to sell myself now in a job interview," she says.

Engelstad, who is now completing a law degree at the University of Windsor and continues to volunteer in JTC training centres and missions, says the program makes participants realize that "everything is global... you automatically look at opportunities that go beyond our borders." 🍁

Learn more about how to get involved in Junior Team Canada by visiting Global Vision at www.gvconnects.com.

YOUTHS TAKE IT GLOBAL

Two young Canadians are bringing youths together in an on-line network that provides inspiration, access to information and opportunities to improve local and global communities.

By the time he was 18, Michael Furdyk had made millions creating and selling Internet companies and was a technology consultant to Fortune 500 firms. At 21, Jennifer Correiro was debating corporate responsibility at a World Economic Forum event in Geneva after being selected by the organization as a Global Leader of Tomorrow.

Fuelled by these experiences and their passion for social engagement and information technology, in 2000 the two young Canadians founded TakingITGlobal (TIG), an international non-profit organization that has grown to a worldwide staff of 40 young people. The organization's flagship program is TIG.org, an on-line community where youths meet to exchange ideas and develop plans for community development projects.

"There are an infinite number of ways to effect change and have an impact," says Correiro, now 25 and TIG's Executive Director, who describes the organization as "a catalyst" for "youth-led action in the international context." Furdyk, 23, the company's Director of Technology, calls TIG "a connector" that allows young people to exchange information about successful youth initiatives.

All of that on-line activity is sparking creative projects and creating connections worldwide. In Cyprus, members use TIG to initiate dialogue between Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

Students in South Africa and Canada participate in an innovative form of comparative education by analyzing differences in perceptions of HIV/AIDS in images posted on the site's Global Gallery. Through Foreign Affairs Canada's Young Professionals International program, TIG has arranged internships for young Canadians with organizations like Peace Child International and the Digital Youth Consortium.

This Canadian initiative has caught the attention of major players in the corporate world. Soon after the idea for TIG was announced, Microsoft invited the two young co-founders to Seattle for a six-month stint advising the company on various aspects of the next generation of workers (referred to as the "Net Generation"). Wrote *Time* magazine in 2001: "At the heart of the new generation's approach is a collaborative style that is getting smart young minds together. This is a central tenet of TakingITGlobal." TIG's partners and sponsors include five UN agencies, RBC Financial Group and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

TIG has grown into a vast network, with more than 75,000 members in 200 countries. Between 30,000 and 40,000 people visit the site each day, generating more than 1.4 million "hits." The site offers a database of 1,000 projects around the world along with downloadable "guides to action" that help young people to



photo: Vito Amati

TakingITGlobal's Michael Furdyk and Jennifer Correiro: Helping youth to exchange ideas and develop plans for community development projects.

plan, implement and evaluate community development projects.

There is a danger, Furdyk admits, of overwhelming people with information. Soon the site will deliver customized information packages and offer a personal look and feel to members. TIG already operates in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic, with plans to add Portuguese and Vietnamese in the coming months and another 10 languages in development.

As TIG celebrates its fifth anniversary, Furdyk is most proud of the organization's record of "using ideas to build what is available on-line now." Correiro is putting into practice her statement to the World Economic Forum that "companies need to be responsible to the broader community and not just their shareholders." Through TIG, the two are investing talent, resources and energy in unleashing the power of youth. ♣

Check out TakingITGlobal at www.TIG.org.

CANADA EXPANDS EFFORTS IN AFGHANISTAN

A new initiative enhances Canada's engagement in Afghanistan by assisting Afghan efforts to stabilize the country's southern Kandahar province.

The recent deployment of a Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) to Kandahar significantly supports Canada's objective of promoting stability along with reconstruction and development in Afghanistan.

The PRT—including about 250 Canadian Forces soldiers as well as RCMP officers, a representative from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and diplomats from Foreign Affairs Canada—will assist the Afghan central government in extending its authority and strengthening its credibility and effectiveness in and around Kandahar.

on Canada's "whole-of-government" approach in Afghanistan, begun in 2002 to provide diplomatic, development, defence and other support to the country.

"This initiative is a genuine demonstration by Foreign Affairs Canada, CIDA, the Canadian Forces and the RCMP of an integrated approach in line with our new international policy," said Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew. "This unique approach will assist Afghanistan in its efforts to become a stable, democratic and self-sustaining state, one that never again serves as a haven for terrorists."

The Canadian Forces will further increase their regional presence this February with a brigade headquarters and army task force situated in Kandahar under the U.S.-led Operation Enduring Freedom. With these deployments, Canada will be positioned to play a leadership role in Afghanistan, particularly in the south.

Canada's efforts have helped achieve real results, especially in security sector reform. The successful completion in July of the first two phases of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration program in Afghanistan saw some 63,000 former combatants lay down their arms. Canada also helped to create momentum and support for a program that secured 97 percent of the heavy weapons in the country.

Such progress is critical to the stabilization of regions outside of Kabul, where medical attention and measures to deal with extreme poverty and a lack of clean drinking water are urgently needed.

"Sustainable development requires security," noted International

Canadian Forces vehicles travel down a highway while on patrol in the Kandahar region as part of the Canadian PRT.

Cooperation Minister Aileen Carroll. "The PRT will work to stabilize the Kandahar region and, in turn, this will help create a positive environment where the security preconditions are met for development efforts to flourish."

Canada has signaled its determination with a pledge of \$616 million for development assistance to Afghanistan from 2001 to 2009. The pledge makes Afghanistan the single-largest recipient of Canadian bilateral assistance, much of which is directed to priorities identified by the Afghan government.

In efforts to assist the Afghan government and stabilize the Kandahar region, the PRT will help to promote central government policies and priorities with local authorities, monitor security and facilitate security sector reform.

Afghanistan is entering a new phase after September's parliamentary and provincial elections, which marked the end of the Bonn Agreement on Afghanistan, a framework for democratic transition outlining a number of benchmarks and a timeline. Canada played a key role in those elections by contributing more than \$13 million. Canadian Forces in Kabul also provided security during the elections, and Canadian monitors, including representatives of Canada's embassy, helped oversee the results of the voting. 🍁

Additional information on Canada's efforts in Afghanistan is available at www.canada-afghanistan.gc.ca.



Sgt. Chris Thombs of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry greets children during a patrol through Kandahar.

"This commitment is consistent with our new international and defence policies, which demonstrate Canada's emphasis on bringing stability to fragile states," said National Defence Minister Bill Graham.

Launched in August, the 18-month PRT undertaking in Kandahar builds

IN BRIEF

New words of warning

Travel warnings from Foreign Affairs Canada are now being issued with new terminology that clarifies and strengthens the alerts being communicated to Canadians considering travel to hazardous destinations.

The recent change eliminates the previous distinctions made between "Canadians" and "Canadian tourists" in favour of more categorical language that applies regardless of the reasons for travel.

"If the level of threat to a person's safety is high, Foreign Affairs Canada will now advise Canadians to avoid 'all travel' to that destination," explains Dan McTeague, who, as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, is responsible for Canadians abroad. "If the threat in a destination is not as great, the department will advise Canadians to avoid 'non-essential travel.'"

For example, if a nation is engaged in a war, a travel warning would likely state that "Foreign Affairs Canada advises against all travel to this country." For a nation recovering from civil unrest, the warning may read, "Foreign Affairs Canada advises against non-essential travel to this country."

There are nine levels of travel warnings issued by FAC for conditions such as armed conflicts, natural disasters and health emergencies.

"Travel warnings constitute the government's front-line advice to Canadians about what may be happening in a country that they are planning to visit or live in," says Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew.

The change aligns the terminology used in Canada's travel warnings with that used by other countries and government departments and responds to a request from the World Tourism Organization that authorities standardize the terms used in such warnings.

FAC travel reports for more than 200 destinations worldwide are available at www.voyage.gc.ca. The travel warnings and travel reports are part of the government's Travel Information Program, which provides official advice to Canadians living and travelling abroad.



Photo: Chai Sakuntla

Diplomatic opening: The disabled Canadian Men's Standing Volleyball Team played a major part in the first international sporting competition in Cambodia in 40 years.

Volleyball champions

A group of disabled Canadian athletes who took part in Cambodia's first international sporting competition in more than 40 years achieved more than a first-place finish.

In a country devastated by conflict and landmines—some 70 percent of the players on Cambodia's disabled volleyball league are landmine survivors—the members of the Canadian Men's Standing Volleyball Team left a deep impression.

"The Canadian team was the hit of the tournament," says Donica Pottie, Canadian Ambassador to Cambodia, of the Asia-Oceania Volleyball Championships, which included Cambodia, Australia and Canada and were held at Phnom Penh Olympic Stadium in June.

The Canadians, ranked number one in the world, provided volleyball clinics and training sessions for the Cambodian

players. As the team had funds to send just five players and a coach to Phnom Penh, two Cambodian athletes were made honorary Canadians to join its ranks for the five-day tournament. The pair was chosen from a Cambodian league team renamed the Kampong Speu Canadians in honour of the visitors.

Seated with Cambodian officials and speaking at the event, Ms. Pottie felt the tournament was a diplomatic opening for Canada that proved inspirational. "It provided an occasion to stress Canada's support for mines action and our commitment to ensuring that human beings are able to live fully realized lives."

The Canadian team, buoyed by their adopted Cambodian members, also demonstrated some excellent playing, never dropping a single set. To see the Cambodia trip diary posted by Canadian team captain Neil Johnson, visit www.volleyball.ca and look under Team Canada – Disabled.

Mooncakes, eh!

To mark the 35th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Canada, the two countries have produced the first-ever Canadian version of mooncakes.

The Canadian Embassy in China and Beijing's award-winning Fangshan restaurant have taken one of the finest traditions of the Chinese mid-autumn festival and combined it with the flavours most closely identified with Canada to offer smoked salmon, ice wine and maple syrup mooncakes.

The distinctive cakes bring together old and the new, east and west, imperial Chinese cuisine and contemporary Canadian flavours to celebrate Canada-China ties. A team of experts created and perfected the recipes and production techniques, enabling mooncake lovers in China to sample the Canadian flavours, chosen to represent all regions of the country



Mooncakes showcase Canada



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Eyes on the world

At 23, Matt McCormick is living on his third continent in as many years—and eager to show others what he's finding out there in the world.

A recent computer science graduate from the University of Victoria, McCormick "discovered a passion" for travel three years ago when he participated in a four-month work exchange program in Hong Kong sponsored by AIESEC International, a student-run organization that offers global internships. Last year, McCormick worked in Nairobi, Kenya, as a volunteer with AIESEC and he's currently on a 12-month internship with the organization in Zagreb, Croatia.

Always interested in photography, McCormick (pictured in the top photo with the cannon) finds a digital camera a natural way to document his travels. He belongs to an on-line "photo community" called Flickr where he shares his work with friends and family—so far he's posted more than 3,000 pictures from six countries. In Croatia, he is most impressed with traditional town squares and the evidence of the war that just 10 years ago ravaged the eastern part of the country, where houses are destroyed and old buildings marked by bullet holes. "It's eye-opening," he says.

Find these and other photos by this young Canadian shutterbug at www.flickr.com/photos/mattmccormick.



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New World, Our World Canada in the Americas

Canada's leadership
role in Haiti

South America's
economic powerhouses

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Our cover

Two-year-old Christian Morraquin poses in 2001 with Canadian and Peruvian flags in the courtyard of his home in Pajonal Bajo, a community in southern Peru destroyed in a 1996 earthquake. World University Service of Canada, with the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency, supported post-earthquake reconstruction efforts there.
photo: Greg Kuchel/THL/ICEX

This page

A musician plays a long flute during the carnival in Oruro, Bolivia, a mining town in the country's altiplano region.
photo: CFIM/Asia Network

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A BETTER WORLD

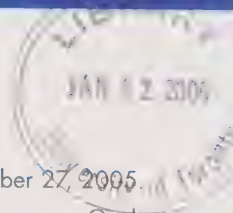


photo: Sgt. Tim Jean, RCMP Unit

Michaëlle Jean, 27th Governor General of Canada, delivers her installation speech in the Senate Chamber in Ottawa on September 27, 2005

Madame Jean, her husband, His Excellency Jean-Daniel Lafond and their daughter, Marie-Eden, in the Senate Chamber

Michaëlle Jean became the new Governor General of Canada on September 27, 2005. Madame Jean had a varied and accomplished career as a teacher of languages, a Quebec broadcaster and a social commentator, while devoting herself to the cause of people in need, including disadvantaged women and children at risk. Born in Haiti and having fled the country as a young child in 1968, when she and her family sought refuge in Canada, Madame Jean brings to the position of Governor General a unique perspective as she represents Canadians as well as Canada to the rest of the world. The following are excerpts from her installation speech.

Here today, I am turning a significant page in my own story as I set off on this new adventure with hope and determination.

Hope has been a beacon for me since childhood and into my adult years. It is embodied in this country with its unlimited possibilities—this country that we sometimes take for granted. My own story begins as a young child in another country, one “draped in barbed wire from head to toe,” in the powerful words of the Haitian poet in exile, René Depestre, who is also my uncle. The story of that little girl, who watched her parents, her family, and her friends grappling with the horrors of a ruthless dictatorship, who became the woman standing before you today, is a lesson in learning to be free.

I know how precious that freedom is; I know what a legacy it is for every child, for every citizen of this country.

I, whose ancestors were slaves, who was born into a civilization long reduced to whispers and cries of pain, know something about its price, and I know too what a treasure it is for us all.

Every Canadian woman, every Canadian man prizes that freedom and would defy anyone who tried to take it away—of that I have no doubt. From Signal Hill to Vancouver Island, from Baffin Land to Thetford Mines, the freedom that is ours unites us all. Freedom has marked our history and our territory; it has marked our summer breezes and our howling winter winds. It has helped create the spirit of adventure that I love above all in this country, this country where each and every one of us is able to participate fully in the ongoing task of building it.

More than four centuries ago that spirit of adventure drove women and men to cross the ocean and discover a



new world elsewhere. That spirit also led the First Nations to pass on to those new settlers the essence of this generous land. And it encourages people from all over the world to share in our prospects or to take refuge here and make a fresh start, safe from tyranny and violence. It inspires our artists, our scientists, our peacekeepers and our institutions as they work to spread our know-how and our message of hope. Today, we are the sum of those adventures.

We are encouraged to believe that everything is possible in this country, and my own adventure represents, for me and for others, a spark of hope that I want kept alive for the greatest number.

I know that our planet is fragile, and that natural disasters, like the one that recently assailed our American neighbours, are a brutal reminder of that fragility. And we have seen so many lose their possessions. And as is universally the case in such circumstances, we have seen emerge entire segments of a population, among the most destitute, men and women who had nowhere to go. Dispossessed, with no points of reference, facing sheer devastation, even utter dismay. Such images we have seen before—from Darfur, from Haiti, from Niger. And this time they came from New Orleans, from the margins of an affluent society.

Other changes have come, changes that sometimes leave us perplexed. Redefining national boundaries and the violent upheavals that sometimes accompany it, the opening of markets, the speed and convergence of our systems of communication, mean that the map of the world is changing day by day, before our eyes, and that some countries may be wondering about where they



Madame Jean and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice meet at Rideau Hall on October 25, 2005.

fit in. The stakes are high: they include taking part in increasing globalization while at the same time protecting features that enrich humanity with our own perceptions of the world.

As a journalist, the profession I practised with passion and resolve, I have been a privileged witness both of a good many upheavals and of an unprecedented opening onto the world. I pledge that I will go on listening and that my curiosity will remain keen. We are at a turning point in the history of civilization and more than ever before, our future rests on those who are forcing us to imagine the world of tomorrow. Those women and men are today showing us the vast range of what is possible for us. They are etching upon our memories the breadth of our aspirations. They are holding out a mirror that reveals the gap between what we are and what we aspire to be.

There is an observation by Montesquieu, a philosopher of the Enlightenment, that has a particular resonance for me. It states: "The duty of the citizen becomes a crime if it makes him forget the duty of the man." To this, I would of course add "the duty of the woman," because we want recognition as full-fledged citizens in our own right. That statement inspires me and comforts me; for me it is a rampart against the barbarism that afflicts so many in this world. And it reminds me how fortunate we are to be citizens of a country that's not afraid to tear down walls of prejudice, one whose generosity is its finest attribute in the concert of nations.

I hope with all my heart that, together, we can call upon the vigour of our shared history to realize our dearest and most ambitious wish: to make a better world. 🍁

Read the full text of Governor General Michaëlle Jean's installation speech at www.gg.ca.



New adventure: Madame Jean and Jean-Daniel Lafond leave Parliament Hill by landau.

EYES ON THE AMERICAS

Canada's symbolic, political, business, personal and cultural connections within Latin America and the Caribbean are growing.

A local troupe performing Latin dances had a surprise for Canadian visitors to Cajamarca, Peru, one evening last May. When the show ended, the dancers came to the edge of the stage to unfurl what appeared to be a Canadian flag—but wasn't. In the middle of Peru's vertical-striped, red-and-white flag, where the country's coat of arms should have been, had been painted a Canadian maple leaf, making it a perfect amalgam of the two flags.

It was a gesture not lost on Denise Brown, who led the visiting group of students and faculty from the University of Calgary in her role as director of Latin American Studies there. "It was truly a bonding experience," says Brown, whose field-school students make annual trips to Latin America.

Many such experiences flow from Canada's growing connections with the dynamic cultures of the Americas region, which has more than 500 million people, comprises Central and South America and the Caribbean, and offers new vistas of opportunity for constructive partnership.

Long a champion of human rights, democratic process and poverty alleviation in this politically complex region, Canada today helps drive the effort to restore stability to Haiti, fosters a growing partnership with the regional powerhouse of Brazil and promotes the strengthening of governance throughout the Americas.

"This is our neighbourhood," says Peter Boehm, an assistant deputy minister at Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC) and former Canadian ambassador to the Organization of American States (OAS). For Boehm, who was the Prime Minister's personal representative to the Fourth Summit of the Americas held last November in Mar del Plata, Argentina, "it is in our interest to have a strong and



Photo: CP (Fred Chartrand)

democratic hemisphere and we are doing our part in a committed and focused way."

Ties that bind

Canadians have a number of historical, political, symbolic, business, cultural, faith-based and personal links with the region. Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson's initiative to expand Canadian aid around the world supported a great deal of Canadian-led development work in Latin

America. Canada became a permanent observer to the OAS in 1972 and a full member of the organization in 1990. At that time, the end of a number of dictatorships and the stabilization of economies in the region were allowing for new relationships with the affluent North America, which had previously been oriented more toward European and Asian alliances. In 2001, the Third Summit of the Americas was held in Quebec City.

Commerce with the region has expanded significantly. In 2004, Canada had \$7.2 billion in exports to Latin America and the Caribbean, a 26 percent increase from the previous year, while more than 19 percent of the country's direct foreign investment, some \$85-billion, was in the region.

"Canadian governments should always be closely watching events in our own hemisphere, for all sorts of reasons, including self-interest," remarks Oakland Ross, a Latin American correspondent for *The Globe and Mail* in the 1980s.

Neal De Florio, president of Monarca Property Corp. in Toronto, believes there is enormous untapped economic potential in Latin America. There are political and social

Leaders of the Fourth Summit of the Americas gather for a plenary session in Mar Del Plata, Argentina, on November 5, 2005.



disparities as well as polarities among the leadership of the region, concedes De Florio, whose firm brokers real estate development in Latin America, but no more so than in "other large, emerging markets."

The region presents a tapestry of urgent as well as much more long-term needs.

Disasters such as the devastation wreaked by hurricanes Stan and Wilma last fall in Central America and Mexico have been met by Canadian assistance. Private sector and non-governmental organizations from Canada collaborated in efforts in the wake of the destruction, including an airdrop to Guatemala of donated baby supplies and tents for temporary shelter, while the federal government provided immediate aid funding.

Decades of development work led by Canadian church groups, human rights organizations and NGOs, many in cooperation with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), in countries such as Bolivia, Honduras and Haiti have created a positive reputation for Canada, based not only on appreciation of its building of local schools, health clinics and water treatment plants, but on deeply held social values.

"Canada is often seen as an interesting—and inspiring—case in regard to issues such as Indigenous and minority rights, bilingualism and multiculturalism, status of women and social policy," comments Victor Armony, an Argentinean immigrant who is a professor of sociology at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) and editor of the *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*.

Help for Haiti

Political upheavals in the region have drawn Canadian assistance at key junctures. Canada's whole-of-government effort in Haiti, for example, has put Canada at the forefront in offering security assistance, development aid and diplomatic support there, most recently playing a critical role in assisting with preparations for the national elections, with \$29.5 million in support as well as plans to send up to 300 election observers.

Haiti is the largest recipient of Canadian assistance in the hemisphere, particularly in the areas of health, education and agriculture.

A historical role in international peacekeeping has also seen Canada leading the security effort in Haiti, a country that has suffered years of debilitating upheaval. Canadian police forces, including the RCMP, as part of the United Nations mission in the country, are helping to train Haitian police and rebuild damaged police stations and prisons, while Canadian advisers work with the Haitian Ministry of Justice on judicial reform and the restoration of the rule of law.

Darren Schemmer, Director General of Policy and Planning in the Americas branch at CIDA, says the turbulent situation in Haiti has required a careful, consensus-building approach. Schemmer says that Canada has "played a leadership role in bringing donors together in a coordinated, cooperative framework," in areas such as agroforestry and school programs.

Ties between Canada and Haiti were highlighted by the widely enthusiastic reception given in both countries to the appointment of Canada's new Governor General, Haitian-born Michaëlle Jean, a descendant of slaves and daughter of exiles from the country.

Madame Jean became an immediate standard-bearer for Canadian values and her appointment served as evidence of Canada's mature relationship with the region. "The Governor General's appointment symbolizes some of our links, linguistic and otherwise," observes John Foster, a principal researcher at The North-South Institute in Ottawa.

Democracy on the move

The example of Haiti underlines that truly alleviating poverty requires democratic stability. In a region still marked by great inequities, Canada focuses much effort on governance.

While free elections are now more or less a regional norm, Canada continues to encourage respect for the rule of law, greater transparency and the inclusion of Indigenous people and women in the political process. "It's a natural role for us," notes Boehm.



photo: CP (Jose Luis Magana)

Hurricane Stan devastation: People are pulled over rails to cross the destroyed international bridge on the Mexico-Guatemala border at Ciudad Hidalgo, Mexico. Canadian assistance helped communities affected by raging flood waters and mudslides in the wake of the storm in October 2005.



Offering support: Captain Shawn Courty, with the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment, helps a young boy shoot the first basket on a net that soldiers installed at a local orphanage in the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince in June 2004. The regiment was part of Canada's contribution to the UN Stabilization Mission in the country.

Canada feels that these issues are especially important to the region because democracy is the base for economic growth. That link was made explicit by the theme of the recent Summit of the Americas—Creating Jobs to Fight Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance.

Trading places

Canada's role as a forger of consensus in the region is gaining prominence, especially given the impasse at the Summit on the issue of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Canada has made an unequivocal commitment to the success of the FTAA, with the premise that freer and fairer trade would lift people out of poverty and enable Canada to leverage its size to compete globally, generating jobs at home. With its differences resolved, the hemisphere could represent the largest economic alliance in the world.

At the Summit, however, while 29 nations agreed to renew the FTAA negotiations, four felt that the conditions for free trade were not propitious at this time and one rejected the FTAA altogether. Venezuela has argued for a counter-strategy to focus the cooperation effort within South America.

"Latin America requires approaches that focus on human development, domestic markets and domestic capacities," explains Ricardo Grinspun, a Chilean-born

professor of economics at the Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean at York University in Toronto. "International finance and markets play a role in that, but are not an end in themselves."

Influential *Miami Herald* columnist Andres Oppenheimer, however, strongly endorses the FTAA premise. "China, India and eastern European countries are carrying out what may be the biggest reduction in poverty in world history," he says, "and it is mostly due to their commercial opening to the world."

Brazil: An emerging priority

While multilateral cooperation in the hemisphere is critical, Canada's relations with individual countries of the region are also vital. A key tie is with Brazil, an emerging giant comprising half of South America's population and GDP, identified in Canada's recent International Policy Statement as a priority nation.

"Brazil is a major, sophisticated and influential player on the multilateral scene, whether it is in world trade negotiations as leader of the G20 or in UN peacekeeping operations," notes Florencia Jubany, a senior policy analyst at the Canadian Foundation for the Americas (FOCAL) in Ottawa. "Brazil is also a central actor in the Americas, and shares many points of convergence with Canada's own foreign policy."

Jamal Khokhar, Director General of the Latin America and Caribbean Bureau at FAC, says that Canada and Brazil "not only share a hemisphere, they share goals, priorities and—perhaps most important of all—values." This makes the two countries natural partners, he says. "We are living in a world of rising powers and Brazil is one of those powers. Canada appreciates Brazil's leadership and believes it can make a difference in the hemisphere."

Brazil is a force behind South American integration and has played a moderating role, which is critical given the economic hardships in neighbouring Andean nations such as Bolivia and Ecuador and the potential for political unrest there.

The Latin quarter

Brazilians also appreciate the quality of education in Canadian schools. Canada is the largest international destination for Brazil's students, who are joined by ever-greater numbers of young people from countries like Colombia, Venezuela and Argentina.

"In my classes I'm seeing increasing numbers of students from the region," says Andy Hira, a Latin America specialist at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia. "For the Latin American student, having a degree from Canada is definitely a leg up in the job market [back home]."

According to the 2001 census, some 787,000 people from the region have made Canada their permanent home,

from the waves of refugees fleeing political strife in Argentina and Chile in the 1970s and 1980s to the massive influx of immigrants from Caribbean countries such as Jamaica and the Dominican Republic who have settled in Canada's large urban areas.

Noteworthy for their cohesiveness and strong community organizations are Haitian immigrants to Montreal, comments Victor Armony of UQAM. Language and religious links with the dominant Catholic francophone culture have created strong connections between Haitians and Quebec society, he says, adding that other immigrants from the region are becoming more involved in other communities.



Hope floats: Fishermen on Lake Olomega near San Miguel in El Salvador were able to buy new boats such as this one called Fé y Esperanza (Faith and Hope) through Canadian assistance to their fishing cooperative.

"You can already see more Latin Americans active in their local school boards, in municipal politics."

One thing that fascinates Andres Mendoza, the National Marketing Manager of EMI Music Canada in Toronto, is that Latin cultural expression takes on new flavours in Canada, as artists from different nations of the region come together here. "Latin music created in Canada has a distinct Canadian-Latin style because of the interaction between the cultures," explains Mendoza, who comes from Chile.

Artists from the Caribbean join the mix as well. Canadian saxophonist Jane Bunnett has forged a wide range of relationships with Cuban musicians, with whom she has created a dozen jazz recordings and toured extensively.

Doing it differently in Cuba

Canada and Cuba marked 60 years of formal diplomatic ties in 2005. Cuba commands respect in the developing world for its tenacity and independence. "Cuba sort of punches above its weight," says Cuban specialist John Kirk, a professor in the department of Spanish at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

Kirk supports the approach Canada has taken in retaining unbroken relations with Cuba, a contrast to the U.S. estrangement with the island nation. "Canadian NGOs and church organizations have done a strong job there," he says.

Today, Canada works hard on the relationship, he adds, strengthening the link that will grow in importance in a

Canada and the OAS

In the 15 years it has been a member of the Organization of American States (OAS), Canada has been successful in making its influence felt.

When the country moved from permanent observer status to full membership in the OAS in 1990, there were concerns that Canada's independence would be compromised by joining a body in which the United States was such a major player. Today, observers agree that despite the ups and downs of the organization, Canada has benefited by joining.

Yasmine Shamsie, an assistant professor in political science at Wilfrid Laurier University and a specialist in Latin American politics, was actively involved with the NGO community 15 years ago, and was against Canada taking out membership in the OAS. Now, however, she thinks it was a good thing.

"We've made a tremendous contribution," she says, though adding that Canada could do even more in the organization. "We have definitely increased our profile in the region, and we wouldn't have been able to do that without joining."

Canada's Ambassador to the OAS, Paul Durand, calls joining the organization "a very significant foreign policy decision" for Canada. "With it, we announced to the world that Canada is a nation of the Americas. We are recognized and appreciated in the OAS as a progressive, constructive

member, one that has made a major contribution to hemispheric affairs."

Mr. Durand says Canada has been successful in getting the OAS to respond to its priorities—"everything from the landmines campaign to human rights concerns, from democratic governance to the anti-corruption convention in the Americas"—which to a certain extent has transformed the body. OAS membership has also helped Canada's relationship with the U.S., he says, with the two countries realizing they don't have major hemispheric differences, except over relations with Cuba.

Edgar J. Dosman, a senior research fellow at York University's Centre for International Security Studies, says Canada joined the OAS at the right time. Latin America was democratizing and Canada—no longer as strategically important to Europe and the U.S. with the end of the Cold War—was searching for new horizons.

Canada is the second-largest contributor to the OAS, with an annual assessed contribution of some \$11 million, representing more than 12 percent of the organization's regular budget. Canada also provides significant voluntary contributions.

Canada is seen at the OAS as a balanced participant, a "reasonable player" not driven by the agenda of any country or region, Mr. Durand says, "though it's a daily challenge" not to be pulled in one direction or another.

post-Castro era, when Canadian trade with the island may expand, along with Canada's influence there in matters of democratic development.

A future together

Geo-strategic and trade interests have long combined with development aid, human-rights concerns and myriad people-to-people links in Canada's relations with its southern neighbours.

Today, the need for cooperation and understanding within the region is even more critical. And Canada is more committed than ever to the progress of democracy in the region, particularly in the face of enduring poverty and problems of inequity.

FOCAL Executive Director Eduardo del Buey, who has been associated with Latin America for more than 30 years, remembers a time when internationalists resisted getting involved in the region. "It was the kiss of death from a career point of view," he says. "Now, our best and our brightest are going there."

They should. Canada's geographic reality as a country of the Americas represents an important opportunity for its own economic prosperity and the broadening of its political partnerships. It also has a responsibility to model and share Canadian values and practices in the areas of democracy, human rights and good governance.

Armony says his Latin American academic counterparts hold Canada up as "an example of innovation, efficiency

and social harmony." It's possible to idealize the Canadian example too much, he adds, yet the country's opportunity to effect change in the region is real.

"Canada has terrific potential to become a force toward democracy and social equality throughout the hemisphere," he says. "Canada has strong credibility capital." 🍁

Learn more about Canada and the Americas at www.americascanada.gc.ca.

Canada-Brazil cooperation: Experts examine seedlings at an experimental farm supported by Canada in Ouro Preto, Brazil. The project encourages the planting of trees that are profitable for small farmers while preserving the forest environment.

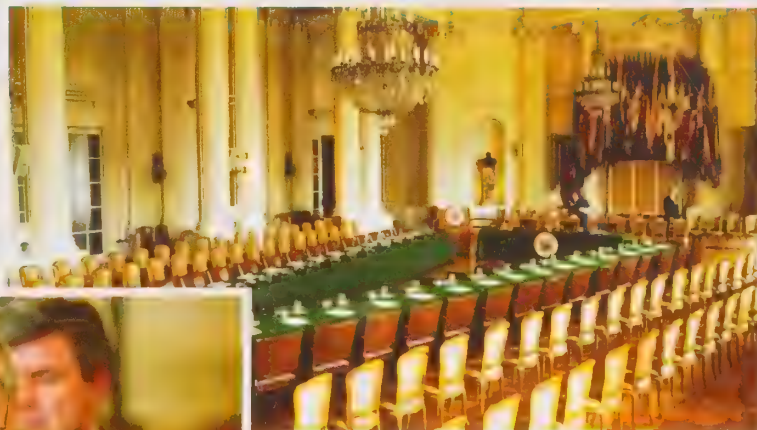


There are a number of challenges down the road at the OAS in which Canada may play a role. Dosman says that the post-9/11 world is a more complex place for foreign policy—and for the organization.

There are especially massive pressures over the future of Haiti and growing concerns about social unrest in countries such as Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela. Mr. Durand talks of an "emerging polarization, where South America is giving indications it might want to go its own way."

There's also the potential for disagreement over Cuba, which will come to the fore-front post-Castro. Mr. Durand says Cuba will be a "tremendously difficult" issue for the OAS. "It is the elephant in the room."

Read about Canada and the OAS at www.international.gc.ca/latinamerica/oas-en.asp.



▲ The Hall of the Americas at the Organization of American States headquarters in Washington: Canada has been successful in getting the OAS to respond to its priorities.

◀ Canada's Ambassador to the OAS, Paul Durand: Joining the organization was "a very significant foreign policy decision" for Canada.

photos: courtesy of the OAS

THE WORLDS WITHIN US

Caribbean and Latin American expatriates are helping to reshape Canada's literary landscape.

When writer Neil Bissoondath was first published in 1985, he felt there were expectations that he would write only about the Caribbean.

Bissoondath, who had emigrated to Canada from the island of Trinidad as a young student in 1973, says he "struggled against the label of a 'Trinidadian writer' because it was reductive from the very beginning." Instead, he set the stories in his first book, *Digging Up the Mountains*, in Toronto, Spain and Japan as well as in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Like many writers from the region who have made Canada home, Bissoondath straddles the old and new worlds in his work, creating new ways for Canadians to see themselves. "Canada is such a welcoming place to different voices that you feel free to explore whatever your imagination gives you," he says.

Since the 1960s, immigrant writers from the Caribbean and Latin America have left their mark on the Canadian cultural landscape. Austin Clarke, who left Barbados in 1955 to study in Canada, has won many literary accolades for his nine novels and five

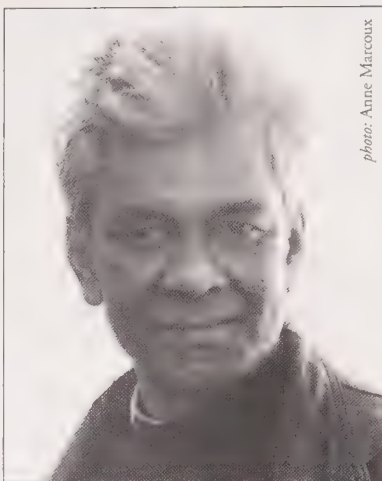


photo: Anne Marcoux

Different voices: Author Neil Bissoondath says that in Canada "you feel free to explore whatever your imagination gives you."

short-story collections—including the 2002 Giller Prize for *The Polished Hoe*. Born in Trinidad, Dionne Brand has lived in Canada since 1970, and has become renowned as a poet, and, most recently, a novelist. Alberto Manguel, an internationally acclaimed anthologist, translator, essayist, novelist and editor originally from Argentina, became a Canadian citizen in 1982. And a decade after Dany Laferrière arrived in Montreal from his native Haiti in 1976, he published his widely praised first novel, *How to Make Love to a Negro*.

Writers from the region defy easy categorization. Some explore the experience of life as "new Canadians." Others draw on their place of origin for inspiration. Still others tackle quintessentially Canadian themes. Bissoondath's novel *Doing the Heart Good*, for example, is the story of a 70-year-old anglophone Montrealer who is obliged to live with his daughter and her bilingual family.

Bissoondath's other works include *The Worlds Within Her* and, most recently, *The Unyielding Clamour of the Night*.

Nalo Hopkinson, who was born to Jamaican and Guyanese parents and lived in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana before settling in Toronto in 1977, is best known for her science fiction and fantasy writing set in the Caribbean. However, she has also written erotica, a performance piece and a play, and is currently working on text for a comic book. In addition, she maintains close ties with dub poets, who write a "socially engaged" form of poetry set to music that evolved out of Jamaica.

"People sometimes assume I have one theme or palette, but I don't," Hopkinson says. "Like any other artist, I go with what grabs me and follow that obsession until it's done. To all of it I bring an awareness of



photo: Thomas King

Author Austin Clarke left Barbados in 1955 to study in Canada.

Nalo Hopkinson's *Mojo: Conjure Stories*; Neil Bissoondath's *Doing the Heart Good*; Nalo Hopkinson's *Midnight Robber*; Austin Clarke's *The Polished Hoe*; Neil Bissoondath's *The Unyielding Clamour of the Night*; and Nalo Hopkinson's *Skinfolk*.



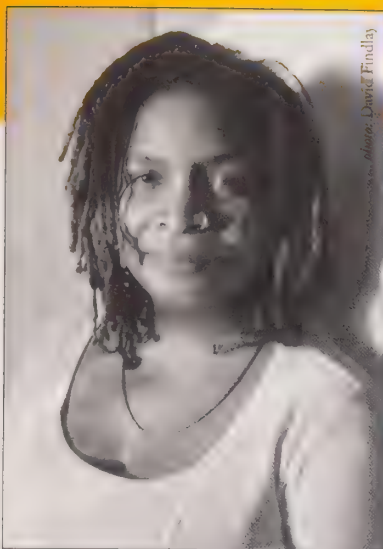


photo: David Findlay

Caribbean perspective: Writer Nalo Hopkinson varies her writing but brings to it "an awareness of race, culture, gender and sexuality, and how all these things play out."

race, culture, gender and sexuality, and how all these things play out, and I do this very much from a Caribbean perspective."

In her PhD dissertation, Pamela Mordecai—a publisher, poet and writer originally from Jamaica who now lives in Toronto—used the term "prismatic vision" to describe how people from the Caribbean understand things.

"Caribbean societies—because of their history, location and cultural mix—are fluid rather than static," says Mordecai, whose company Sandberry Press publishes Caribbean writers and writers of Caribbean heritage. "'Prismatic vision' means that Caribbean people can tolerate multiple—and sometimes contradictory—meanings, without feeling the need to reduce them to any single principle or point of view."

Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC) has helped Sandberry to distribute books by Caribbean authors in the region and promotes Canadian writers from Latin America and the Caribbean

in literary tours around the world. By attending book launches and festivals abroad, some of the writers have made invaluable contacts within the international literary community. For example, at one sponsored event, Hopkinson was invited to edit an anthology called *Whispers from the Cotton Tree Root: Caribbean Fabulist Fiction*.

FAC also supports tours to Latin America and the Caribbean by Canadian artists such as writers, painters, actors, filmmakers, dancers and musicians. In March 2005, for example, two French Canadian musical groups toured the region to celebrate Canada's participation in La Francophonie, with Swing performing in Colombia, Ecuador and Panama and Marie-Jo Thério impressing audiences in El Salvador, Guatemala and Haiti with her piano playing and powerful voice.

For writers and musical artists from the Caribbean who have moved to Canada, distance from their roots offers new perspective. "I tend to write about a place after I've left it," says Bissoondath, who now teaches creative writing in French at l'Université Laval in Quebec City. "I need the distance to allow things to filter through my imagination."

Hopkinson, who has returned to writers' conferences in the Caribbean to discuss her work, also finds Canadian society more open. "I feel freer in Canada than I would in the Caribbean to write what comes to me. There's a sense you can be both Canadian and whatever your background is," she says. "That's very, very precious to me—to have it all." 🍀



Singer Eve-Lange Delouis

Songs in the key of hope

When the Canadian embassy in Haiti co-organized a song contest last summer to inspire young people to vote in the national election, Eve-Lange Delouis had no doubt her song would win. Delouis, 26, started singing at eight years of age in the choir of the church where her father is a pastor, next to the family home on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince. "I prayed to God every day that I would place first," she says.

When the finalists assembled to perform their songs in the Concert for Hope on October 30, the judges announced that Delouis, a nurse, had indeed won first place for her passionate "*Fòk n'al vote*" ("We've got to vote"). In addition to a prize of 50,000 gourdes (about \$1,400), Delouis will receive two years of promotional support from a local organization for her singing career in Haiti and abroad.

The contest, sponsored by the Canadian embassy in partnership with Haiti's Ministry of Culture and Communications as well as Tamise, a Haitian cultural association, drew 60 submissions. Musical styles could vary, but the lyrics had to inspire young people to vote.

"The objective was to create a forum in which young Haitians could express the importance of citizen participation in the life of the country and the importance of the election process," says Claude Boucher, Canada's Ambassador to Haiti. "In addition to showcasing all of Haiti's talent and cultural wealth, the contest bore witness to the strength and motivation within young Haitians."

The quality of submissions was so high that the nine-member jury chose 15 finalists instead of 10. Their songs were compiled on a CD, which was played by local radio stations.

Albert Chancy, a radio station owner who headed the jury, says the contest was a creative way to get young people involved in the election. "We have a lot of youth in Haiti, and we don't have elections often, and so many youth aren't familiar with them."

Eve-Lange Delouis is convinced that young people can play a critical role in the democratic process. "I'm very optimistic about the future of Haiti."

Listen to and download the Songs of Hope at www.port-au-prince.gc.ca

LATIN SENSIBILITY. CANADIAN CREDIBILITY

Roots in Latin America give Canadian diplomats José Herran-Lima and Guillermo Rishchynski a different perspective on the region.

A career in the far-flung world of the Canadian foreign service can sometimes lead back home.

Two new Canadian heads of mission in Latin America—José Herran-Lima, Canada's Ambassador to Panama, and Guillermo Rishchynski, Canada's Ambassador to Brazil—have deep roots in the region.

With their innate understanding of the history, politics, culture and language there, the two diplomats have hit the ground running in their assignments. And both are keen to draw on their Latin backgrounds to help forge stronger ties between Canada and its hemispheric neighbours.

Mr. Herran-Lima grew up in Bogota, Colombia, the son of a Brazilian mother and a Colombian father working in his country's

foreign service. When he was 16, the family moved to New York City. The bits of news that Mr. Herran-Lima read about Canada in the newspapers there intrigued him and he decided to move to Toronto in 1974, becoming a citizen three years later.

Attending Osgoode Hall Law School in 1980, Mr. Herran-Lima became interested in the Canadian foreign service when he saw an ad in the school paper asking people to apply. "That year there wasn't a lot of hiring and I was put on the waiting list. A year later, I was accepted."

Mr. Herran-Lima asked not to be sent to Latin America, because "I wanted to see other parts of the world first." Nonetheless, with his legal training and Spanish, his first assignment was a three-month stint in 1981 helping consular officers in Lima, Peru, deal with a large number of cases of Canadians charged with drug offences. At the embassy in Lima, he met a Canadian secretary, Susan Magee, who would, upon her return to Canada, become his wife. Mr. Herran-Lima has since been posted to Indonesia, Zimbabwe, Guatemala and Brazil.

In Panama, his first assignment as ambassador,



Canadian Ambassador to Panama José Herran-Lima stands at the side of the Panama Canal with a transiting ship in the background. Canada is the seventh most frequent user of the Canal.

Mr. Herran-Lima is working to build on existing ties. "Canada's historic links with Europe and the United States take up a lot of space," he says. "There are many more linkages that can be made with Latin America."

The key is person-to-person contact, Mr. Herran-Lima says. And that is on the rise. The number of Canadian tourists visiting Panama's tropical resorts and of Panamanian students choosing to study in Canada is rapidly growing, and Canada is the seventh most frequent user of the Panama Canal. During the 1980s, when their country was under a dictatorship, many Panamanians left for Canada, but they have kept their ties after their return to Panama.

Guillermo Rishchynski, while Canadian-born, spent his early years in Panama, his mother's homeland.



Presenting credentials: Ambassador José Herran-Lima presents his letters of appointment to His Excellency Martin Torrijos Espina, President of Panama, at the Palacio de las Garzas in Panama City.

His "life-on-the-move" began at six weeks of age when his mother and Canadian father, a Westinghouse sales representative, left Toronto for Panama City. After a decade there, the family spent several more years living throughout the United States. When Mr. Rishchynski visited Expo 67, "I fell in love with Canada and decided that's where I wanted to return to live."

After several years working for a trading company in Ottawa and travelling around the world, during which time he met his Honduran-born wife, Jeanette Portillo Tinoco, he joined Canada's foreign service in 1982. His first postings were as a trade representative in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo in Brazil. Mr. Rishchynski has also had assignments in Amman, Melbourne, Jakarta, Chicago and as

Canada's Ambassador to Colombia. Last September he came full circle back to Brazil.

Like his counterpart in Panama, Mr. Rishchynski believes Canada's links with the region must be stronger. "Brazil and Canada need to know each other better. We're both large, multi-ethnic, multicultural countries. We're both federations—among the few in the hemisphere." A number of trade irritants have arisen between the two countries in recent years, he says, but "we need to move beyond these issues, to work more closely in areas where our points of view converge, and to better manage our differences without losing sight of the totality of our relationship."

Mr. Rishchynski and Mr. Herran-Lima see Canada as a key player at the Organization of American States in promoting democracy, with a pivotal role in the hemisphere.

Canada's model of social democracy is interesting to Latin Americans, says Mr. Herran-Lima. "More and more people are looking at Canada," he says. "They see that we have been able to achieve economic growth and social equity and they find that very intriguing." ■



Canadian Ambassador to Brazil Guillermo Rishchynski and his wife Jeanette Portillo Tinoco, who is from Honduras, have been on eight postings abroad together.

Family ties

In addition to their Latin roots and their long and varied careers, José Herran-Lima and Guillermo Rishchynski share another similarity—both are married, with two children who have grown up in a succession of world capitals but now face the typical family conundrums and separations involved in life abroad.

"The foreign service has been very enriching for our kids," says Mr. Rishchynski, whose son and daughter are now at university in Washington. "It has made them very adaptable, very tolerant of differences. And they have a solid understanding of the world."

This is Mr. Rishchynski's eighth posting with his wife Jeanette Portillo Tinoco, and the first without the children. However, he points out, the family's two schnauzers are in Brazil, enjoying their fifth term overseas.

Mr. Herran-Lima's younger daughter has just joined her older sister at the University of Ottawa this year, and he and his wife, Susan Magee, have made the difficult decision that Magee will stay behind in Ottawa both to provide support to the girls and to continue working as a management consular officer at Foreign Affairs Canada.

Magee has been with the department since 1976 and, while FAC has always been supportive of the pair as a working couple, the mission in Panama is too small to employ them both. "We decided we'll try this for a year," says Mr. Herran-Lima. "Then we'll look at it again."



Getting the message out: Ambassador Rishchynski is interviewed by Ginette Lamarche, the Radio-Canada correspondent for South America, at the Canadian Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro.

LOST PARADISE

Canadian Jeffrey Kofman is the Miami correspondent for ABC News, covering the Caribbean and Latin America as well as Florida. Kofman comes from Toronto and worked as a correspondent for CBC News, moving to CBS News in New York and joining ABC in 2001. He has reported extensively from the region.

After travelling to more than 50 countries, I have found paradise. It is a guest house on a lush coffee plantation in South America called Finca Guayabal. Perched at the end of a long, curving driveway lined with hibiscus, the *finca*, or farm, is a tropical Eden. In every direction coffee trees line the steep mountain slopes. At sunrise, a thick mist hangs in the air. The deep valleys burst with topical trees, sporting blooms in oranges and pinks and reds. Birds of blue and yellow and green chirp and screech as they fly about.

All this for \$20 a night, meals included.

But before you rush to book your getaway from a frigid Canadian winter, consider that the *finca* is in one of the most dangerous regions in the world: the Andean highlands of Colombia, near the provincial city of Manizales, a short flight from Bogota.

"No," says the elegant proprietor, Doña Maria Teresa Londoño, in polite but firm Spanish, "there are no guerrillas in this area. When we have guests I have a guard and dogs patrolling the grounds, but we have never had a problem."

The same cannot be said of the surrounding region. I was in the area shooting a story on the collapse of world coffee prices. Just days after I left, guerrillas belonging to Colombia's biggest rebel group stopped a convoy of cars a few miles north of the *finca*.

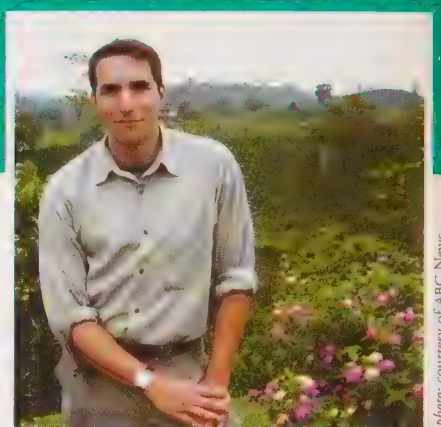
Ten men were kidnapped at gunpoint.

It is no accident that Doña Maria Teresa's noisy, Spanish-speaking pet parrot is named Paz, or Peace. That is what has long eluded this country, once home to notorious narco-traffickers and now under siege from guerrillas who have taken control of the drug trade and terrorize the population of 44 million. In the last decade, rebels have kidnapped some 3,000 people a year.

The 65-hectare *finca* has been in the Londoño family since the 1940s. Despite her advanced years and delicate shoes, Doña Maria Teresa nimbly navigates the surrounding jungle slopes, showing visitors the impressive local flora. "Look there," she points with pride to a flowering plant much taller than her five-foot frame, "a white bird of paradise. Very rare." And beautiful. An albino cousin of the orange and violet hothouse flower found in so many Canadian florist shops.

Foreign tourists are equally exotic here. Doña Maria Teresa has occasionally seen Europeans and Canadians, but most guests are Colombians. Americans? As rare as that white bird of paradise.

A few days after returning to Bogota, I had dinner with an American diplomat and told him about my enthralling journey to the *finca*. He nodded knowingly. "Colombia could have a \$5-billion-



Tropical Eden: ABC Latin America correspondent Jeffrey Kofman stands in a coffee grove on Finca Guayabal.

a-year tourism industry," he said. "If it could ever rid itself of guerrillas and drugs, this country could be as popular as France."

It seems a perfectly reasonable—if tragically unattainable—vision for so much of this region but especially this place of extraordinary natural and historical riches.

Colombia, under the firm and controversial leadership of President Alvaro Uribe—and with more than \$4 billion in aid from the United States—is struggling to regain its security and crush rebel groups. Kidnapping and murder rates have fallen significantly, but are still treacherously high. Drug production has been curtailed, but Colombia remains the single-biggest source of cocaine on U.S. streets.

At Finca Guayabal, visitors wake to the chirping of birds and the squawk of Paz. "*Quiero Cacao*," he says. "I want chocolate."

And who wouldn't? The chocolate and coffee here come from the trees to the breakfast table. A visit to the *finca* makes clear that Colombia is a land of enormous possibilities. If only there could be peace.

Until then, Paz will continue to squawk for his chocolate in splendid, tarnished isolation. ☿

MAKING THE CONNECTION

An organization supported by Canada helps bridge the digital divide across the hemisphere.

There's an image in Ben Petrazzini's mind, an image that takes form as he talks about what the Institute for Connectivity in the Americas (ICA) does.

A teacher, say, in Colombia, helps to develop an innovative software tool for teaching math to Grade 3 students. The software is made available on line in Colombia on the National Education Portal, and the following day it can be downloaded and used by schoolchildren from Baja California in northwestern Mexico to Tierra del Fuego on the southernmost tip of South America. Instantly, resource-poor schools have a new teaching tool.

Three years after becoming operational, the ICA is making this type of instant connectivity a reality. The institute supports the development of information and communication technology not only for schoolchildren, but also for villages that need Internet connections, public servants who want to share best practices and businesspeople looking to increase their knowledge and to develop skills.

"Most countries work in isolation," says Petrazzini, the ICA's acting manager. "We're seen as kind of an objective partner that facilitates integration across the region."

Operating on a five-year, \$20-million budget through 2007, the ICA finances some projects and acts as a facilitator in others. It has the flexibility to work with governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector,

says Luis Barnola, a senior program specialist with the ICA in Ottawa. "We're a catalyst."

The ICA was created as part of Canada's contribution to the 2001 Summit of the Americas, held in Quebec City. It became apparent during the digital boom of the 1990s—when the Internet went from being a novelty to a necessity—that parts of Latin America and the Caribbean needed a boost.

Working through Canada's International Development and Research Centre, with 10 full-time employees based in Ottawa and Montevideo, Uruguay, the institute has supported 60 initiatives since 2002.

For example, it has worked to connect the national education portals of various Latin American countries. This connection is up and running and would allow the sharing of the Grade 3 math software that Petrazzini gives as an example.

"Those portals were working in isolation, so what the ICA has done is fund the creation of a regional network," says Petrazzini, who is based in Montevideo.

"The ministries of education of each country are members of the



▲ Tangled wires connect concrete houses in Olocuilta, El Salvador.



◀ Digital boom: In Belén de los Andaquíes, Colombia, a father and his son transport a computer monitor on horseback.

photo: Y. Beaulieu, IDH

network, and when they produce educational content, that content is immediately circulated to the whole region," he says. "It's very powerful, because it multiplies educational content and it allows kids everywhere to have access to the same new pedagogical tools."

There are many other ICA projects. For example, @Campus, a pilot e-learning platform designed by the Mexican public service, has trained more than 800 Mexican public servants in an effort to improve efficiency and accountability as well as strengthen democratization. The project, which is being hailed as a model internationally, is ready to deploy to other countries, explains Barnola, who spearheaded the initiative.

Connectivity is not limited to teaching tools. The ICA is also working on such technology as wireless fidelity (WiFi) and connecting remote areas using low-cost, high-speed Internet.

Says Petrazzini: "A number of our projects are aimed at giving communities that are excluded the chance to enter the information age." ♣

Learn more about the ICA at www.icamericas.net.

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Canadian businesses tapping into South America's economic powerhouses are finding rich rewards.

On a recent trip to Brazil, Vancouver software executive Tom Teixeira experienced first-hand the emerging global giant's appetite for Canadian products.

At a São Paulo business reception for his company, ACL Services Ltd., the turnout of high-powered officials invited from among Brazil's top firms and government agencies was an astonishing 100 percent.

"The interest from major organizations in working with us is profound," says Teixeira, whose company first entered the Brazilian market nine years ago. "It's something we've never seen before."

top customer and Chile quickly rising up the charts—ACL is now bracing for a further surge in sales.

"We are sitting on the tip of the iceberg," says Teixeira. "The opportunities we have uncovered over the past nine years have been considerable, but what we see now is that they are growing exponentially."

On a continent once marred by political and economic instability, his experiences hold true for other Canadian companies and investors now chalking up successes. That especially is the case in Brazil and Chile, which, after returning to democracy in the late 1980s, removed many barriers to foreign trade and investment. Today the two countries account for 60 percent of Canadian foreign direct investment in the region, particularly with tax agreements that simplify the treatment of foreign nationals.

Brazil—the largest market in South America, with 178 million people—ranks 13th among world economies and first among Canada's trading partners in the region. In 2004, two-way trade between Canada and Brazil was \$3.2 billion, climbing 24.7 percent from 1995, with Brazil enjoying a growing surplus, according to Statistics Canada.

One Canadian newcomer to the Brazil market over the past decade is The Woodbridge Group, a company based in Mississauga, Ontario, that makes foam seating products for the automotive sector in 18 countries. In 1996, working with a local partner, Woodbridge became the first large Canadian auto supplier to set up a manufacturing facility in Brazil—

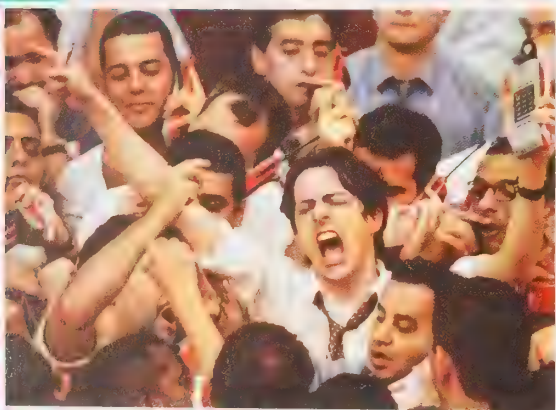
serving six car manufacturers from three plants. After buying out its partner in 1999, Woodbridge now supplies 21 vehicle-makers around the world from four plants in Brazil.

"The experience has been the best possible," says William Santos, operation manager for the company's Brazil plants, which consistently score high in international quality comparisons. "People here work hard and they are not satisfied with average results."

Like Brazil, Chile is a resource-rich country that is opening its doors to a diverse mix of entrepreneurs, beyond a historic focus on mining. Although the country is smaller, with a population of 16 million, the Economist Intelligence Unit recently ranked Chile 19th among the 60 best countries in which to conduct business over the next five years.

Since 1991, Vancouver's Methanex Corp. has made Chile a key base for its global production of methanol, a basic ingredient in industrial and household products. During that time, Methanex has invested \$1.3 billion in southern Chile, which is close to gas-rich petroleum fields and ocean transportation routes. Earlier this year, the company opened its fourth plant near Punta Arenas, raising production from all of its Chilean plants to four million tonnes of methanol a year—about 12 percent of the world market.

"Chile is an excellent country in which to do business," says Methanex president and CEO Bruce Aitken. "It is very welcoming of foreign investors and has developed a very open and successful economy."



Hot market: Traders yell orders on the floor of the Bovespa stock market in São Paulo, Brazil, Latin America's largest stock exchange.

ACL Services develops audit-specific software tools sold in 137 countries, in a field where governments and the private sector are racing to meet new global standards to protect against corruption and waste. After years of double-digit growth for the company in South America—with Brazil the



Methanex Corp. president and CEO Bruce Aitken (third from left) tours the company's new plant in Punta Arenas, Chile, (in banner) with senior management and employees.

LEARNING FROM MAPLE BEAR

When it comes to discovering Canada, kids in Brazil are starting early.

Preschoolers in the country attending new Maple Bear schools will be introduced to Canada through lessons on the country's customs, culture, and bears, as well as songs, poems and books by Canadians. It's all part of a bilingual, child-centred curriculum for children three to six years of age developed by Canadian experts in early childhood education and delivered by local franchises in Brazil.

"We're going as young as we can" says Rodney Briggs, president of the Canadian Education Centre (CEC) Network, a private, non-profit company that promotes and markets Canada as a study destination for international students and has developed Maple Bear. "There's no mistaking that this program comes from Canada."

Seven Maple Bear schools are to open in Brazil in February, with a total of 52 of the preschools expected around the country within four years. There are four Maple Bear schools operating in India, with plans to start the program in South Korea, Turkey, Mexico and Russia.

"It's a positive way to get the message out about Canadian education," says Briggs, adding that there is a lot of demand for such preschool programs in rapidly developing countries with a burgeoning middle class. "Parents are looking for high-quality, western-style

education that will get their children off on the right foot."

Such programs are expected to influence more than just young learners, with the schools "branding" Canada and improving bilateral relations between countries. Maple Bear alumni could also choose Canada as a study destination as they grow up. CEC operates in 17 countries around the world, representing 300 Canadian institutions ranging from universities, community colleges and secondary schools to language schools and summer camps.

Canada is the number one study-abroad destination for Brazilians, with 10,000 students coming to Canada from Brazil last year, attracted by low

costs, a streamlined visa process, the ability to study in English or French and few security issues, Briggs says. "They see Canada as a welcoming, safe country with good-quality education programs."

Fernanda Purchio, the manager of CEC Brazil in Sao Paulo, says the number of Brazilians choosing Canada to study is expected to grow. In Brazil, there are more than 55 million students in formal education programs, the fourth-largest student population in the world after China, India and the United States.

There is also an active Brazilian Association of Canadian Studies, with 18 Canadian Studies centres located in Brazilian universities, which serves to enhance academic links between institutions in Brazil and Canada. 🍁



In the past decade, building from a small base, two-way trade between Canada and Chile has jumped 150 percent, reaching \$1.6 billion in 2004, spurred by a bilateral free trade pact signed in 1997. That agreement allows most industrial and farm products from Canada to enter Chile duty-free.

Those who do business in the region say that countries such as Brazil and Chile present a number of challenges, including the considerable distance from Canada, as well as language barriers and customs issues. However, Canada also shares much with these countries: similar business climates, good infrastructure, a trained workforce and sophisticated consumers.

While he is pleased with his company's success in Brazil and Chile, Teixeira advises others who want to do business there to do their homework.

"It is incumbent on whoever is entering the market to understand it," he says, "No opportunity for growth comes without risks." 🍁

For more information about trade with Brazil, Chile and other countries in South America and the Caribbean, visit the Trade Commissioner Service at www.infoexport.gc.ca and search the region.

FINDING COMMON GROUND

Indigenous people across the hemisphere, with the support of Canada, are working together on issues from rights and self-determination to sustainable development and the control of lands and resources.

When Darrel McLeod, a Nehiyaw (Cree) from the Treaty 8 territory in Alberta, meets another Aboriginal person from anywhere in the Americas, it takes only a few minutes of conversation to find common ground.

They might compare notes on how they are keeping their languages and cultures alive, discuss social and health concerns that are widespread in Indigenous communities, or ask how the courts in their respective countries are dealing with land claims issues.

McLeod, the executive director of the International Relations Directorate at the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), says these shared concerns form the backdrop for the growing ties between Indigenous people in Canada and the rest of the Americas—links that Canada is playing a lead role in forging.

According to the Inter-American Development Bank, there are about 55 million Indigenous people throughout the Americas, some seven percent of the population. Social indicators for this group show higher rates of poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition and disease and lower levels of access to employment, financial resources, education and health services than among non-Indigenous people.

McLeod says Indigenous people in the Americas have been collaborating informally for perhaps 50 years, but their issues are increasingly part of the political dialogue at a higher level.

The First Indigenous Summit of the Americas, held in Ottawa in 2001 as a lead-up to the Third Summit of the Americas, was supported by the Canadian government and Aboriginal organizations. At the second such Indigenous summit held in Buenos Aires last fall, a few days before the Fourth Summit of the Americas, the AFN was one of the lead organizers.

A declaration adopted there rejects international agreements such as NAFTA and Mercosur, demands Indigenous peoples' participation in international forums and calls for the acknowledgment of the intrinsic value of the relationship of Indigenous people to their lands, resources, spiritual values and ancestral belief systems.

The declaration, presented to and adopted in part by the Summit of the

Americas a few days later, appeals for participation by Indigenous people in the political process. "Without our inclusion on an equal footing," it states, "democracy within the states will remain incomplete and unsatisfactory."

Keith Smith, a senior policy adviser on Aboriginal affairs at Foreign Affairs Canada, says the federal government supports Aboriginal initiatives in several ways—including through the Indigenous Peoples Partnership Program, financed by the Canadian International Development Agency. That program provides opportunities for Indigenous organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean to form partnerships with Canadian Aboriginal groups in order to contribute to the sustainable development of Indigenous people in their region.

Smith says that Canada "has a lot to offer in terms of best practices and lessons learned" on Aboriginal policy and is looking to learn from other countries as well.

Canada supports efforts by the Organization of American States to prepare an American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that will advance the quality of life and human security of Indigenous people in the region.

Symbolic of Canada's commitment to Aboriginal issues in the Americas—and the ties between Indigenous people across the region—is an inukshuk created by Inuit master carver Bill Nasogaluak that forms the centrepiece of the new Canada Plaza in Guatemala City, the capital of Guatemala. In that country, Indigenous people form a majority of the population. 🍁



An inukshuk grows in Guatemala: The centrepiece of the new Canada Plaza in Guatemala City is an inukshuk created by Inuit master carver Bill Nasogaluak out of Guatemalan stone, with a piece of Canadian granite from the Northwest Territories at its heart.

IN BRIEF

DART brings relief to Pakistan

Canada's Disaster Assistance Relief Team (DART) returned from its second mission of the past year, providing care and essential services following the devastating earthquake in the Kashmir region of northern Pakistan.

The DART mission known as Operation PLATEAU brought more than 200 medical personnel, engineers and soldiers to a remote mountain area near Muzaffarabad, the epicentre of the October 8, 2005, earthquake that killed more than 73,000 people and left some 3 million homeless.

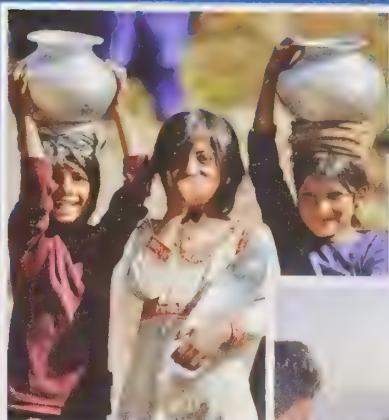
Based at Garhi Dopatta in the Jhelum Valley, DART provided treatment to more than 11,700 patients—including some 7,000 people treated by mobile medical teams operating in isolated areas that could only be reached by a chartered helicopter or on foot—and distributed more than 3.8 million litres of pure water.

"It was a huge undertaking," said Captain Rick Regan, a DART operations officer, adding that the biggest challenges

in the region were the treacherous conditions of roads and other infrastructure following the earthquake and the steep, rough terrain that made it hard to reach severe casualties. "You couldn't just build a medical facility and expect people to climb down out of the mountains and find you."

DART members provided a number of additional services, delivering babies and inoculating people who might have been exposed to diphtheria, repairing the X-ray machine at the local health-care centre, providing technical advice on reconstruction efforts, building latrines in displaced-persons camps and bringing tents to remote locations. The team included three Pakistani Canadians who were able to speak Urdu and understand the culture.

Medical treatment and water purification capabilities were handed over to long-term relief organizations such as the Red Crescent Society, a branch of the Red Cross, and Regan said that people in the region are beginning to rebuild their homes, villages and lives.



Local girls carry clean drinking water produced by DART at the Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit site in Garhi Dopatta, Pakistan.



Pakistani and Canadian soldiers with DART prepare a young boy with broken legs for a helicopter medical evacuation from the remote mountain village of Palhot Bala, Pakistan.

Last January and February, following the Indian Ocean tsunami, a DART mission in Sri Lanka called Operation STRUC-TURE treated more than 7,600 patients, produced nearly 3.5 million litres of drinking water and transported more than 70,000 people across a local waterway.

See more on DART in Pakistan at www.forces.gc.ca/site/Operations/Plateau/index_e.asp.

From the ground up

One year after a massive tsunami in the Indian Ocean devastated the coastlines of countries across the region, Canada's support for communities there is making a difference.

In the immediate aftermath of the tsunami triggered by an earthquake on December 26, 2004, an estimated 5 million people needed humanitarian assistance and 270,000 people died.

Concerned Canadians responded immediately and generously. Their donations included some \$213 million given to eligible non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to help tsunami-affected communities, which the Government of Canada is matching dollar-for-dollar as part of its five-year, \$425-million commitment following the disaster. The Canadian International Development Agency is channelling aid through international agencies such as the World Food Programme as well as

23 Canadian NGOs that work with local partners. In addition, many other government departments responded to the disaster according to their expertise.

Support from Canada has been instrumental in the three phases of assistance, starting with relief and rehabilitation and moving on to reconstruction activities that are well under way.

In the relief stage, Canadian NGOs and partner organizations provided food, medicine, basic supplies and emergency items such as insecticide-treated bed nets to help prevent malaria. Rehabilitation involved setting up temporary shelters and water supplies, addressing the emotional needs of survivors and restoring livelihoods through initiatives such as business training. Now, reconstruction measures are helping to rebuild infrastructure, erect permanent homes, restore local governments, and provide credit, training and other services to businesses—all the while engaging citizens in the process.



Master carpenter Muchsin keeps a watchful eye on an apprentice cutting wood in the village of Baroh Blang Me, Indonesia. After the tsunami destroyed Muchsin's first shop, a grant helped him buy equipment and restart his business.

Read about the one-year anniversary of the disaster and the relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction efforts of Canadian organizations in individual communities affected by the tsunami at www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/canadatsunami-e

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Cuba chronicles

As a chronicler of cultural landscapes, Toronto photographer Elaine Ling found a rich subject in Cuba.

Born in Hong Kong and having moved to Canada at the age of nine, Ling is both a physician and a photographer, dividing her time between the two professions as a tireless traveller "drawn to the deserted, mythic reaches of the earth." She has worked as a doctor in places such as Nepal, Abu Dhabi and Canada's North, including the eastern and western Arctic, while photographing deserts, ruins and isolated nomadic families.

She says that in Cuba, "an island caught between the grandeur of old-world glory and the decay of the immediate epoch," she found "an urban landscape that reflects a struggle between daily life and the slow forces of nature." Responding to people's invitations to visit as she wandered the streets with her camera, Ling captured black-and-white images of household shrines, communist icons, artifacts of past splendour, sculptural nymphs and gardens frozen in time.

Ling has presented her images in four chapters: architecture, interiors, religion and gardens, and exhibited them throughout the world and around Latin America.

Ling found Cuba in metamorphosis; indeed, a "tangible new energy" has already reconstructed and restored some of the crumbling buildings she had photographed just months earlier.

See more of Elaine Ling's photography at www.elaineling.com.

Architecture: Grand Staircase Mirror



Interiors: Grandmother's Chair



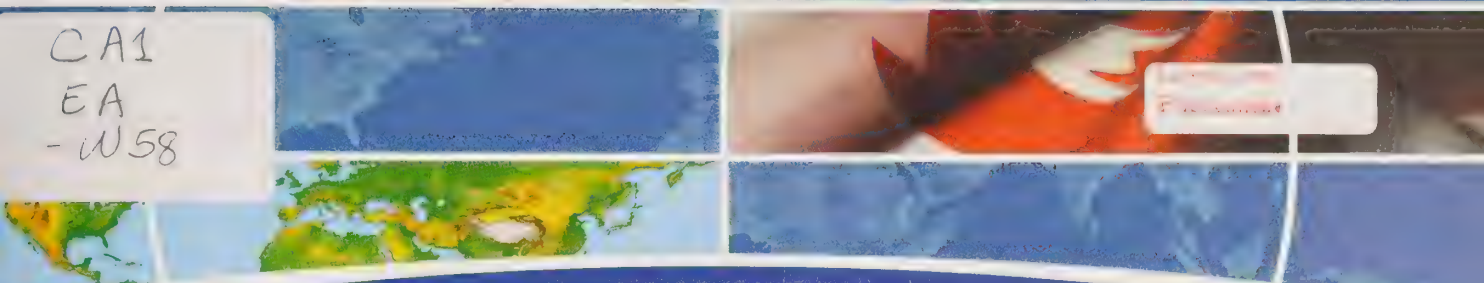
Religion: Saint Teresa Family Shrine



Gardens: Dance Garden



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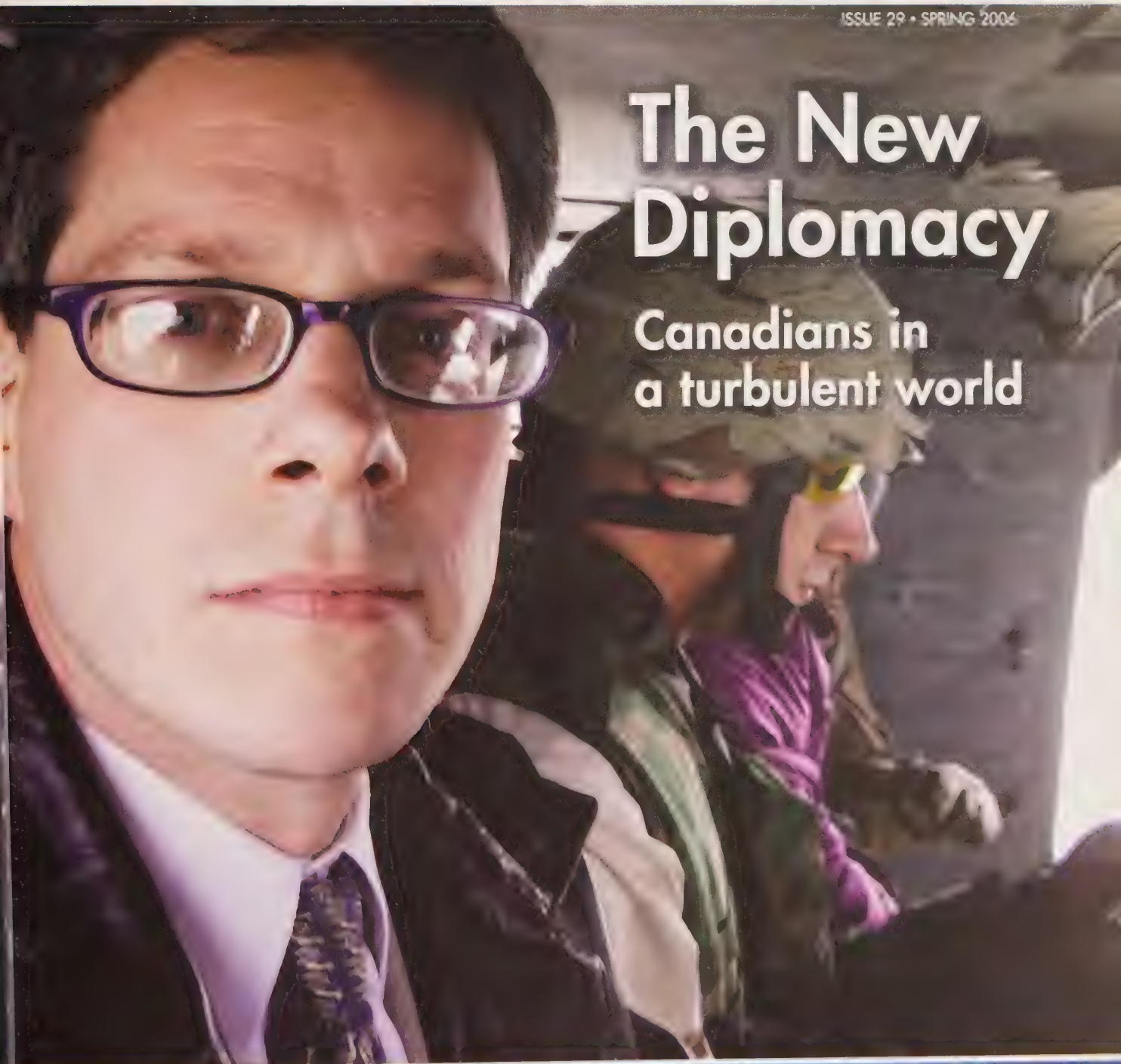


Canada World View

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The New Diplomacy

Canadians in
a turbulent world



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Our cover

Canadian diplomat Ben Rowsell flies from the Baghdad airport to the city's Green Zone in a military helicopter. Travelling by the so-called "air bridge" is required for security purposes.

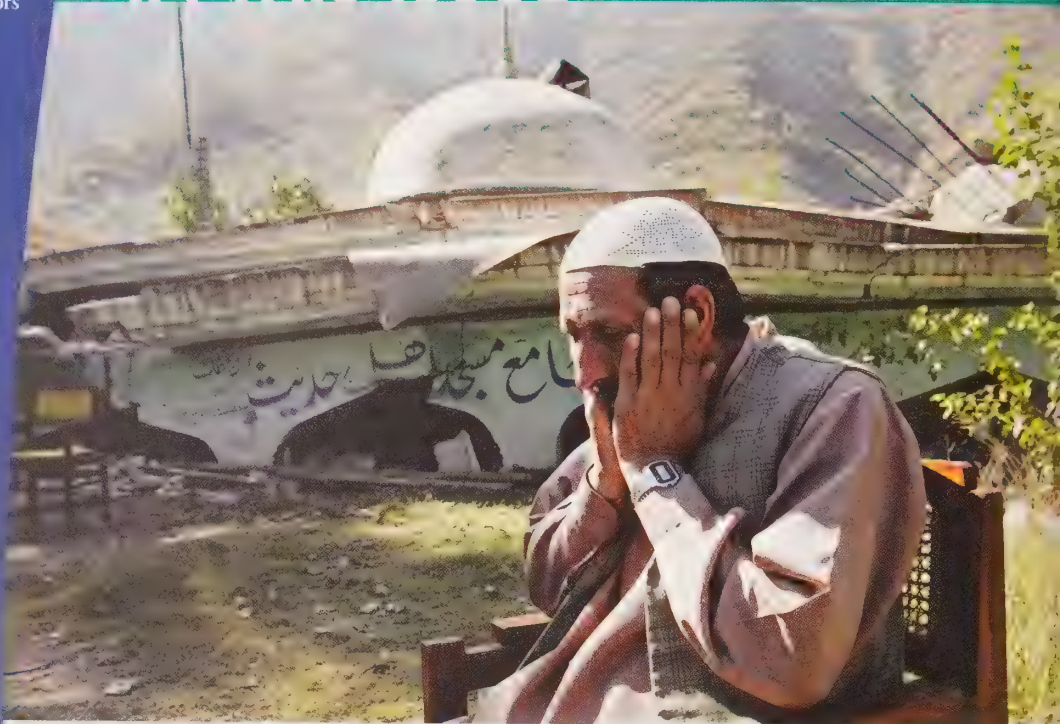
Photo: Ben Rowsell, FAC

This page

Imam Fazul Rahman Osmani prays in front of his collapsed mosque in Garhi Dapatta, Pakistan. Osmani lost his five-year-old son when the mosque was destroyed in the earthquake that struck South Asia on October 8, 2005.

photo: CP (Ryan Remiorz)

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NEW MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The government has appointed a new Minister of Foreign Affairs and a new Minister of International Trade. The government also announced that it will reintegrate the two departments to ensure a coherent approach to foreign affairs and global commerce, while the two ministers will continue to be served by separate divisions within the department.

Peter MacKay has been named Canada's new Minister of Foreign Affairs, a position in which he says he hopes to further Canada's engagement in the world.

Mr. MacKay was born in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. After graduating with an arts degree from Acadia University in 1987, he studied law at Dalhousie University. He was first elected to Parliament in 1997 and re-elected in 2000, 2004 and 2006. He previously served as Progressive Conservative Party leader, House leader and was a member of the Standing Committee on Justice, Human Rights, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness and its sub-committees. He has also been appointed Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

Speaking at the memorial service for Glyn Berry in Ottawa in February, Mr. MacKay said that while he is new to Foreign Affairs Canada, he is "long familiar with the great service to Canada which our diplomats have

exhibited over the years." Since he began his assignment, he said he has received many congratulatory phone calls from foreign ministers throughout the world. "I have been struck by their tremendous regard for Canadian diplomacy, for our efforts to build international law and respect for human rights, for our long history of peacekeeping and our current engagement in the much more challenging business of peacebuilding," he said. "They look to Canada to stay engaged."

David L. Emerson has been appointed Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Pacific Gateway and the Vancouver-Whistler Olympics.

Born in Montreal and raised in Grand Prairie, Alberta, Mr. Emerson attended the University of Alberta and obtained Bachelor's and Master's degrees in economics, then received a doctorate in economics from Queen's University. He was first elected to the House of Commons in 2004 and named Minister of Industry. He was re-elected in 2006. Mr. Emerson previously worked as chairman and CEO of Canadian Western Bank. Afterward, he became the Deputy Minister of Finance in British Columbia and later the Deputy Minister to the Premier. He was president of the B.C. Trade Development Corporation, president and CEO of the Vancouver Airport Authority and president and CEO of Canfor Corporation.

Mr. Emerson said he has a deep respect for the great responsibilities that fall under International Trade. "Canada is a trading nation with a core commitment to free and open trade, and a proud tradition of exporting our nation's products around the world," he said. "Indeed, Canada's success in global commerce will determine our nation's prosperity and our role on the international stage." 🍁

For more information about the ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Trade visit www.international.gc.ca.

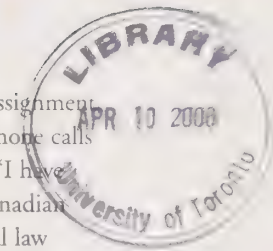


photo: TTC an

International Trade Minister David L. Emerson: "Canada's success in global commerce will determine our nation's prosperity and our role on the international stage."



photo: CP (David Karp)

Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay meets with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on March 10, 2006, in New York

PROFILES IN THE NEW DIPLOMACY

The face of Canada's engagement abroad is changing. Creating a more secure world by responding to crises and disasters requires a more coordinated approach, new tools and resources—and a different kind of diplomat.

If ever there was a way to dispel the myth of the pampered, cloistered, sherry-sipping diplomat abroad, the reality of the Canadians responding to crises and disasters around the world is it. Far from the pinstripes-and-cocktail-party circuit, Canada's foreign service today increasingly deals with complex emergencies in some of the most turbulent places imaginable, organizing relief following devastating natural disasters and intervening

in fragile states that spawn lawlessness, terrorism and humanitarian atrocities.

Such conditions call for a new approach to diplomacy: one that is flexible and agile, and entails working closely across government and in concert with international partners. Those who practise it come not only from the traditional foreign ministry but include experts in stabilization and reconstruction from other departments and agencies, as well as citizens volunteering to observe the nascent manoeuvres of democracy. They face conflict and uncertainty, putting themselves in challenging situations in order to make a difference.

"In an increasingly interconnected world, we ultimately cannot be secure if others are not," says Ross Hynes,

Practical peacekeeping

As a junior diplomat on her first posting abroad to Zimbabwe in the early 1990s, Wendy Gilmour saw up close the effect that long-term international collaboration and links between civilians and the military could have on peacekeeping efforts. With a background in the Canadian reserves and serving concurrently as a political officer to Angola and Mozambique,

Gilmour found herself reporting on peacekeeping operations involving the Canadian Forces in both countries.

In Mozambique, she witnessed a success story, chiefly brought about by efforts to provide coherence between military, development and political elements in the resolution of the conflict, with the parties to the process committed to maintaining a lasting peace agreement. In Angola, a long-standing peace-keeping mission was ill-equipped in terms of both mandate and forces to hold in check a rebel

For Gilmour, the events in the two countries proved the need to give peacekeepers robust mandates and long-term resources as well as to ensure civil-military cooperation on the ground. The experiences would also shape her career as a diplomat.

"It certainly whetted my appetite for being part of the international community engaged in implementing peace agreements, rather than just an observer," says Gilmour, 38, a native of the Ottawa area who is now Director of the Peacekeeping and Peace Operations Group and Director of the Sudan Task Force at FAC.

Gilmour's involvement in peacekeeping and peace support operations has led to assignments around the world, from postings in London and Nigeria to deployments in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as Hungary and a 13-month secondment as the political advisor to the commander of the NATO force in Kosovo, where she lived in a tent. Today she oversees the Foreign Affairs role in peace operations in a number of places including Kandahar and Darfur.

Her goal, she says, is to make sure "everything we do has practical effect." That means "moving beyond rhetorical declarations and focusing on where the rubber hits the road."

"We're no longer the monitor of the schoolyard...It's not good enough just to stand and watch," Gilmour says. A diplomat's role in the field is to act as "orchestrator and author" of the peacekeeping operation, addressing the root causes of conflict and mediating to effect change, which increasingly leaves the foreign service and other actors in the line of fire.

"Our peacekeepers—civilian, military and police—are putting their lives on the line, because they're actively trying to promote something," she adds. "Everybody's at risk when they're doing this. But I would rather have our professionals out engaged constructively in these environments than wait for the risks to come to Canada." ■



Canadian diplomat Wendy Gilmour (centre) travels in the back of an army truck in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

movement that was fuelled by the proceeds of conflict diamonds and unwilling to accept the results of a legitimate election. It would be another eight years before there would be lasting peace there.

Director General and head of the Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START), an initiative of Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC) to gauge the extent of international crises and consolidate the government's response to them.

START brings together capabilities and resources to respond quickly when crises arise and provide leadership in coordinating Canada's efforts with international counterparts. Located in FAC, with staff and an advisory board drawn from across government, the task force brings new

Standard operating procedures for crises

When disaster strikes somewhere in the world, a team of officers at Foreign Affairs Canada in Ottawa is among the first to know about it.

The Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Response Group is responsible for developing, monitoring and coordinating—along with other government departments—Canadian foreign policy on humanitarian affairs related to complex emergencies and natural disasters abroad.

The job has evolved over time, starting as a one-person portfolio set up in the late 1990s following Hurricane Mitch and a major earthquake in Turkey, becoming a three-person team in 2000 and growing to nine members this September.

"It's all about ensuring Canada's response to crises is timely and effective and that across the government we are able to draw on the right tools and have enough capacity to respond to such disasters," says Elissa Golberg, the director of the group, which is at the ready 24 hours a day. "Crises don't always happen between 9 and 5; inevitably they happen on weekends and on holidays, and they happen at night."

The frequency of such disasters, along with the resulting loss of life and severity of damage, has grown considerably, most notably in the last two years. The earthquake in Bam, Iran, on Boxing Day 2003 was followed by a series of major storms through the hurricane season of 2004, (including Hurricane Ivan and Tropical Storm Jeanne), the Indian Ocean tsunami on Boxing Day 2004, a major earthquake in Indonesia in April 2005 and a record hurricane season last year, with 26 major storms from May to December, including hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Stan and Wilma—punctuated by the devastating South Asia earthquake

An officer from the disaster response group is always on call, and all are ready to be deployed overseas at a moment's notice. In significant disasters, FAC convenes a task force of government representatives to coordinate responses. The group works closely with key partners in other government

tools and resources to promote faster, more efficient responses to complex emergencies as they occur.

"We are talking about providing the institutional memory, analytical capacity, forward-planning capability and coordinating function to make Canadian responses to crises more timely, more coherent and ultimately more effective in achieving our objectives," Hynes says.

Although it is not new, the incidence of state failure has been on the rise since the end of the Cold War. As the superpowers withdrew support from a number of

departments, in particular the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) International Humanitarian Assistance Division, which supports most of Canada's humanitarian aid in disasters, and the Peacekeeping Policy Unit at the Department of National Defence.

Catherine Godin, the group's deputy director, is especially familiar with the practical side of natural disasters, having worked temporarily for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sri Lanka last year during the tsunami and its aftermath. "If you are involved in humanitarian affairs, you want to be able to observe a crisis first-hand," she says.

Canada's involvement following disasters happens in phases, beginning with up-front support to large multilateral organizations such as the UN and Red Cross, as well as needs assessments, which are critical, Godin says. "There is a desire to do something, because we see people suffering out there, but doing something also means doing the right thing, not sending tents that are not winterized to places like Pakistan, because they will need to go through winter."

In between disasters, the group, which also includes Derry McDonnell, Brenda Yates and Celine Heinbecker, works on long-range efforts, from providing training and templates for missions reporting on emergencies to incorporating the "lessons learned" in each major disaster into standard operating procedures that set out the responsibilities for departments and agencies when a complex emergency happens, Golberg says. "When you have a disaster it's not the time to figure out who should be where."

Life for members of the group is hectic but fulfilling. "You cannot say in advance that there will be an earthquake next weekend: please don't make plans," Golberg adds. "These are people who are committed to their work and feel passionate about it."



Damage in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, from the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami: 14 government departments in Canada responded to the disaster, while 53 consular officers were deployed to the region and 300 volunteers at headquarters in Ottawa handled more than 100 000 phone calls in two weeks

countries in the developing world, internal challenges to stability soared, with groups fighting for control over valuable resources and the apparatus of the state itself, creating cycles of poverty, crime, corruption and authoritarianism. Conflicts fuelled by long-standing historical disputes, the re-emergence of ethnic rifts and the proliferation of secessionist movements caught countries and surrounding regions in a vortex of violence, conflict and human suffering.

Addressing the problem of failed states is a foreign policy priority internationally, with the United States, the United Kingdom, the European Union and the UN developing new approaches to deal with reconstruction, stabilization and civilian crises.

Managing emergencies entails first focusing on prevention, identifying the early warning signs of states lurching toward crisis and understanding when and how to act to change the trajectory of escalation. When problems do erupt, rapid intervention and the right mix of assistance are crucial, especially in areas such as policing, demining and the re-establishment of courts, to protect people

and enable them to rebuild their lives. Finally, the re-establishment of post-conflict societies requires sufficient resources and time to allow for reconstruction, reconciliation and peacebuilding.

"Providing costly, long-term support—even in some cases putting Canadians in harm's way—is not just a moral obligation, but a strategic imperative," says James Wright, Assistant Deputy Minister of the International Security Branch and Political Director at FAC.

"If we are not immediately threatened by the collapse or implosion of these states, our values as Canadians and our responsibilities as global citizens must invariably compel us to action in the face of the victimization, human suffering and misery that are the inevitable result," he adds. "We have a long way to go and the challenges are many, but we are making a difference." ♦

For more information on Foreign Affairs Canada's initiatives on global issues, peace and security, see www.international.gc.ca/foreign_policy/global_issues-en.asp.

Adding value to humanitarian missions

John Davison got the call last fall as he was settling into a new job as a deputy director in the Northern Europe Division at Foreign Affairs Canada in Ottawa. Canada's Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) was preparing to respond

to the earthquake that had devastated northern Pakistan by providing clean water and medical care in the region. A diplomat was needed to provide political advice, analysis and support to the mission.

With experience serving at the High Commission of Canada to Pakistan and having worked through the aftermath of the 2003 earthquake in Bam, Iran, while posted to Tehran, Davison

the so-called "3-D approach," bringing together defence, diplomacy and development capabilities to deal with the disaster.

"Our interest in the area was to be there to help and to make sure that our help was effective," says Davison, 43, a native of Winnipeg. Trained as a historian and teacher, Davison worked for six years at Parks Canada before joining the foreign service in 1996.

His experience serving in Pakistan from 1997 to 2000 gave him a valuable understanding of the politics, history and culture of the earthquake area. As part of the DART mission, he was able to share his knowledge with his Canadian Forces colleagues while helping them to reach out to the local community in the Jhelum Valley where the DART was stationed.

Davison met with government officials and religious and community leaders to enhance their understanding of DART and support for its activities. All around him he saw devastation. Schools, mosques and homes perched on mountainsides were flattened, only their roofs intact. People were terrified to go into the few buildings that remained standing, frightened by the constant aftershocks—which left Davison equally disconcerted. "I could see the results of the quake all around us."

The conditions were austere, with Davison sleeping on a cot in an army tent on the grounds of a girls' school in Garhi Dopatta that had been damaged in the earthquake.

"I just had to walk down to the medical clinic to see the human consequences of the disaster, people who had walked kilometres down from the mountains to bring their kids in to be cared for by the Canadians," he says. "I didn't mend bones or provide clean water, but by giving advice based on my knowledge of the region to DART members, and through the connections I made in the local community, I played my part." ■



John Davison at a collapsed secondary school where 30 students died when the earthquake struck.

was a good candidate for the task. He found himself on a flight to Pakistan a couple of days later.

For six weeks on the ground in Kashmir, Davison, along with Carmen Tremblay and Nancy Foster from CIDA, epitomized

A LIFE IN THE SERVICE OF CANADA

Peter Harder, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, delivered a eulogy for Canadian diplomat Glyn Berry that highlighted Mr. Berry's career, the demands of the foreign service and Canada's commitment in Afghanistan. Mr. Berry was tragically killed and three Canadian soldiers wounded in a terrorist attack in Kandahar, Afghanistan, on January 15, 2006. Mr. Berry joined the foreign service in 1977 and was posted to Norway, Washington, Cuba, London, Pakistan and Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations. Last summer, he was named Political Director of the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team (see *CWV Issue 27, Autumn 2005*). Mr. Harder was among those who paid tribute to Mr. Berry at a funeral with full military honours in London, England, on January 26. Mr. Berry was buried in his native Wales; he leaves his wife Valerie and sons Gareth and Rhys. The following excerpts Mr. Harder's remarks.



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
Peter Harder

The foreign service constitutes an extended family. In the course of a foreign service career, we work together and live together. Our children grow up together as we grow older together. Today, Canada's foreign service is serving in more and more dangerous places, and Glyn Berry's death reminds us that the obligations of family demand we do everything in our power to keep each other safe.

Glyn had a distinguished career, but it did not follow the normal trajectory. For most of us, the time of greatest adventure comes at the beginning of our professional lives. Then, over the years, we settle into a more comfortable pattern. As our careers advance, our memories of youthful excitement grow ever-more vivid. Younger colleagues look at us with a mixture of sympathy and amusement.

Not so with Glyn. Although he enjoyed all his assignments, it was really in his later postings that Glyn came into his own, when he discovered a subject equal to his great passion. We have a whole new lexicon to describe what we mean: fragile states; failing states; war-shattered societies trying to rebuild themselves.

Glyn saw the people behind the labels, the faces behind the slogans.

On taking up his posting in Pakistan in 1999, Glyn described a country of tremendous potential, but also

one with far too much suffering brought about by weak governance and endless conflict. During those years, he also reported on Afghanistan, in the throes of Taliban misrule; the vast Afghan refugee population in Pakistan was a constant reminder of the human consequences of such ideologically driven folly.

After Pakistan, Glyn moved to our United Nations Mission in New York, where he chaired the working group of the UN peacekeeping committee. Glyn was instrumental in spreading the idea that, in today's world, the principal challenge is not peacekeeping, it is peacebuilding, the painstaking task of helping war-torn countries rebuild

their economies and strengthen vital state institutions such as the courts and police forces. It is complex and difficult work, and we cannot succeed unless we have people on the ground who can deliver the goods.



photo: courtesy of
the Berry family

Canadian diplomat Glyn Berry in 2005 in New York while posted to Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations. He chaired the working group of the UN peacekeeping committee.



The new front line: Glyn Berry (in flak jacket) meets with local tribesmen in the Marouf district, a remote area of Afghanistan near the Pakistan border, 160 kilometres east of Kandahar city.

These people—diplomats, soldiers and aid workers—are the new front line in the struggle to help the most vulnerable and dispossessed people on the planet. They work under extreme circumstances, often in conditions of great danger. They need enormous reserves of compassion, commitment and courage.

Glyn Berry exemplified these qualities. His compassion for the people he met in Pakistan and Afghanistan defined the last years of his life. He volunteered for Canada's Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar because he felt deeply that the Afghan people deserve a better life.

Commitment was not an abstraction for Glyn. He believed that if you could help—if you wanted to help—then you should do so with real passion. He was passionately committed to the work he was doing in Kandahar. He could be a thorn in our side, demanding the support he needed to get the work done, but it was always about the work—it was never about himself.

As for his courage, we should think here of Winston Churchill's words: "Courage is rightly esteemed the first of human qualities...because it is the quality which guarantees all others." Glyn was a brave man. Only weeks before the explosion that ended his life, he was in another convoy when a bomb went off. He was only five seconds away from the centre of the blast. Glyn did not flinch. He did not waver in his commitment, nor did his compassion for the Afghan people ebb away as he considered the dangers around him. He stayed on.

He was aware of the risks. So were we. He volunteered in spite of them, eyes wide open. Assisting Afghans was a cause he and we thought worthy. He did a great job. We never thought it would be otherwise.

Nobody could have been more dedicated to the people of Afghanistan than he was. But the strength of Glyn's commitment and the generosity of his beliefs do not lessen the grief that we, in the Canadian foreign service, feel at a human life of such value extinguished.

There is an old Welsh proverb that says: "The best candle is under-standing." Glyn

understood that each and every one of us can make a difference, and his life will serve as a candle to the Canadian foreign service now and in

the future, especially to those younger than he. He has shown us that the foreign service is more than just a job, and that our individual efforts can add up to something worthwhile, something noble, something that changes lives for the better and brings honour and distinction to the country we are privileged to serve. 🍁

"Courage is rightly esteemed the first of human qualities... because it is the quality which guarantees all others."

Find information about Canada's efforts in Afghanistan at www.canada-afghanistan.gc.ca.

In the line of duty

Canadian foreign service officers killed abroad in the line of duty in the past include John Douglas Turner, the political advisor to the Canadian commissioner on the International Commission for Supervision and Control (ICSC) in Vietnam. Turner was shot down on October 18, 1965, while travelling on an ICSC airplane from Vientiane to his post in Hanoi. His body was never recovered.

Another Canadian official killed while serving overseas was J.M. Boyer, an assistant trade commissioner who was killed during anti-Western riots in Cairo on January 26, 1952.

There are plans to place a plaque in the foyer of the Lester B. Pearson Building in Ottawa to commemorate those who have died under tragic circumstances while serving Canada abroad. The memorial is meant to honour the lives of these people and the sacrifices they made in the service of Canada.

BAGHDAD DAYS

For Canadian diplomats posted to Iraq, work and life are tough but “addictive.”

They work in a conflict zone, spending gruelling hours on the job and living for months in cramped quarters away from home and family. Yet for the Canadian diplomats who have served in Baghdad over the last three years, the posting comes with challenging work opportunities, intense personal experiences, a curious social scene and a sense of meaning far beyond what most diplomatic positions offer.

“It was the best job I’ve had in the foreign service,” says Ben Rowsell, 35, who has been posted twice to Baghdad since 2003. “I felt as though I was watching the history of the 21st century unfold before my very eyes.”

Canada’s diplomatic presence in Iraq was cut to a minimum during the last decade of Saddam Hussein’s regime, with officials based in neighbouring Amman, Jordan, travelling to the country as the situation and needs warranted.

Following the coalition-led invasion of Iraq, Canada undertook a slow return, with at least one Canadian representative on duty in Baghdad, sharing office and living space inside the International or Green Zone and acting as liaison officer, carrying out Canada’s mandate to promote good governance, democratic reform, the rule of law and human rights.

“It’s in our longer-term interests to see a stable and prosperous and free Iraq,” says John Holmes, the Canadian Ambassador to Jordan who last summer was appointed “non-resident” Ambassador to Iraq, re-establishing a Canadian embassy there and overseeing the delivery of Canada’s \$300-million program to support Iraq’s reconstruction and transition to democracy. “The instability of Iraq, including its increasing use by terrorist networks, threatens not only Iraq itself, but the immediate region and the whole world.”

Rowsell, the first Canadian posted to Baghdad after the formal end of hostilities in August 2003, learned to improvise from the moment his plane landed and there was no one to meet him. “I basically had to hitch a ride from Baghdad airport,” he remembers. When he returned for a second stint from August 2004 to June 2005, things had changed significantly: Security requirements today

mean flying from the airport terminal to the Green Zone in military helicopters.

The work of successive Canadian diplomats in Baghdad has required ambition, dedication and creativity. “Other than the fact I had an office waiting for me and a trailer to live in, there was no set of rules I had to follow,” Rowsell says.

His most rewarding experience was watching the first Iraqi election of January 30, 2005, unfold. Rowsell’s job was to assist the International Mission for Iraqi Elections, an organization chaired by Elections Canada that oversaw the vote and certified its validity. “It was astonishing, given the fear and the very palpable atmosphere of violence, to see 8.5 million people come out to vote in an election that was credible, free and fair,” says Rowsell, who has a framed copy of a ballot from that day on his wall at Foreign Affairs Canada in Ottawa, where he is now a policy advisor on global issues. “I felt proud that Canada contributed to that.”

Indeed, many of the Canadian envoys sent to Iraq have been young officers taking on senior duties they might not otherwise have expected so early in their careers.

“Professionally, it was an incomparable experience,” says Erin Dorgan, 28, who was in Iraq from June to September last year to witness the drafting of the country’s new constitution. “I learned more in those few short



Canadian diplomats lived in 2003 and 2004 in trailers outside of Saddam Hussein’s Republican Palace, now home to the U.S. Embassy.

Canadian Ambassador John Holmes: “It’s in our longer-term interests to see a stable and prosperous and free Iraq.”



Elizabeth Williams, Canada’s head of aid for Iraq, wearing a flak jacket.



Better times: Éric Mercier stands in 2002 in the Hay al-Mansour neighbourhood where Canadian diplomats stayed. The area is now considered unsafe for foreigners.



A photo taken in October 2003 from a bombed-out building shows the Republican Palace topped by busts of Saddam Hussein in the distance.

months than I had in my whole five years in the foreign service before that." Dorgan found herself serving, for example, at a meeting with top Iraqi officials, ambassadors from the United States and Britain, and a high-level UN representative.

The lessons of Baghdad were not limited to world politics, however. "I learned more about generators than I ever thought possible," Dorgan says, explaining that she had to repair and then replace the generator for the building that will house Canada's embassy.

Elizabeth Williams, 33, who has served since last August as Canada's head of aid for Iraq, says young diplomats find that with so much autonomy, "it's a bit of an addictive environment." Day-to-day life is a surreal mix of hardship and comfort, flak jackets, helmets and elaborate social events. "We do make fun," says Williams, who celebrated last Canada Day at a party in the new embassy property. There have been two balls hosted by the British, she adds. "Who would have thought you'd need a fancy dress in Baghdad?"

Daniel Maksymiuk, 29, spent the first week of his five-month posting in mid-2004 as an advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Planning sleeping on a cot in a ballroom of Saddam Hussein's Republican Palace. Then he moved to a shared trailer in what had been its orchard.

Those posted in the early days lived in relative comfort in trailers with windows; by the time Rowsell arrived for his second tour of duty, he found himself doubling up in a windowless container tucked inside a covered parking garage surrounded by blast walls and sandbags. "We had concrete all around us in every single direction."

It was probably just as well: Éric Mercier, 46, who served in Baghdad from September 2003 to February 2004, recalls that some 19 trailers were punctured by

bullets in the early days he was there. When he arrived the Coalition Provisional Authority was busy planning the country's reconstruction, but within three weeks, "the shelling—and the serious insurrection—began and never stopped."

After that, much effort focused on counter-insurgency and moving to safer ground, he says. "Working to establish Canada's presence in postwar Iraq meant getting used, so to speak, to having missiles and mortar shells thrown in your general direction at dusk and dawn, three to four times a week."

Concerns about security have increased over time, says Ambassador Holmes. "Security affects everything Iraq wants to do, it affects everything we want to do, it affects the daily lives of ordinary Iraqis."

Working in such an environment can be frustrating—but also humorous at times. When Maksymiuk wanted to meet with an Iraqi government minister in the so-called Red Zone beyond the international quarter, it required making arrangements with a private security firm. "They would provide two armoured trucks and five or six fellows with weapons and they would plan the route and so forth."

The security detail ended up taking him to the wrong minister, but, having just arrived in Baghdad, Maksymiuk didn't realize it. He argued his way into the official's office and had spent half an hour making his case when his phone rang. "The incoming call was from the minister I was supposed to be seeing. I had a horrible feeling come over me: Who am I talking to?"

Maksymiuk quickly concluded the meeting without letting on that he was with the wrong person. "The bodyguards thought it was tremendously funny and later that day we were able to find the correct minister, who also thought it was funny."



Watching history unfold: Éric Mercier took this picture in late 2003 as one of the giant busts of Saddam Hussein was removed from the Republican Palace.

Mike Elliott, 34, who left his wife and baby daughter in Tel Aviv, where he was posted, when he went to Iraq for two months in early 2004, says that Baghdad is “a tough assignment—though not as tough in some ways as people might think.” The Americans especially see to creature comforts, for example offering grits, ice cream and a salad bar at meals.

Special amenities and social activities provide momentary relief amid the constant danger and restrictions, says Williams. “Everybody is aware of the risk of something happening.”

Inside the Green Zone, “you feel more or less safe,” says Rowswell. “The problem is that you feel suffocated.” He coped by writing, keeping physically active, and maintaining contact with family and friends by phone and email. “In some ways you feel as if you’re at the centre of the world, because you open a newspaper every single day and it’s about where you live.”

Ambassador Holmes says the risks in Baghdad are real. In late February while he was stationed there, a rocket landed in the compound where Canada’s diplomats live and work, falling metres from the main building. Luckily, it failed to explode and no one was injured.

Still, he adds, the situation is slowly improving. “Although there is a tremendous amount yet to do, I remain always optimistic.” The Canadians who have served in Baghdad “are outstanding, dedicated and brave representatives of their country. I am proud to have worked with them all.”

For those who have left Baghdad, making the transition has not been easy, Rowswell says, although many have gone on to other exacting assignments in places such as Kandahar, Damascus and Algeria. “There’s a real sense of meaning to your life when you are out there making a difference.”

First impressions

Canadian diplomat Erin Dorgan was posted to Baghdad from July to September 2005. These were among her first impressions recorded in the days following her arrival in Iraq:

Landing in Baghdad

The corkscrew landing was very steep and somewhat dizzying, but it gave a great view of Baghdad. My first impression was of barbed wire, blast-walls and Blackhawk helicopters flying low. Iraq is clearly and unambiguously a conflict zone.

The airport

I arrived in the civilian terminal, which was packed with heavily armed western security guards. The electricity went off as the baggage was coming off the conveyer belt, plunging us into darkness and spurring passengers to tussle and scavenge for bags in the pitch black.

Transport into the city

We took British Puma helicopters to the International Zone. The helicopter bridge gives an incredibly close, intrusive view of Baghdad and people’s lives. We were flying so close that we could see what people were eating for dinner and what they were watching on television. When they looked up at the loud helicopters right above them, we would make eye contact.

Working at the Republican Palace

Saddam Hussein’s old palace is, not surprisingly, huge and grand, with high ceilings and airy halls, marble and chandeliers. The mess hall where I eat is a remarkable sight, with hundreds of heavily armed soldiers eating cheap processed food on plastic plates (no recycling here!) in a grand, high-ceilinged ballroom. There are ubiquitous signs reminding us to clear our guns before sitting down to eat.

The social scene

Social status here is based on badges. Generally the more you have, the more important you are. Guns also help. Some of the foreigners here are deeply committed to trying to make Iraq a better place. Others are drawn to the promise of danger pay. All of the long-timers talk matter-of-factly about having lost civilian colleagues.

Serving in Iraq was “an incomparable experience” for Canadian diplomat Erin Dorgan.



DEMOCRACY ON THE FRONT LINE

Nahlah Ayed is CBC Television's correspondent in Beirut. Ayed, 35, joined the CBC in November 2002 and moved to Jordan. She immediately travelled to Iraq to cover the lead-up to the war there, returning to report on the day Baghdad fell as well as the war's aftermath. Ayed is an award-winning former parliamentary correspondent for The Canadian Press who covered the war in Afghanistan. A native of Winnipeg, she is fluent in Arabic.



The CBC's Beirut correspondent Nahlah Ayed: People in the region "showed an unmistakable willingness to embrace the democratic process."

photo: courtesy of the CBC

Covering a federal election campaign in Canada is an assignment like no other. One morning after the writ is dropped, you hand your life over to a party leader's campaign, say goodbye to your friends and disappear.

As I packed my bag in 2000 for my first campaign, I was enthralled. This was one of the most coveted experiences on Parliament Hill and, finally, I was getting my chance. But what appeared to be a plum assignment came with a heavy price: a gruelling schedule with little sleep, constant filing of stories, and more "wheels-up" on flights than I cared to count.

But as I was to learn much later, those were carefree days indeed.

Five years on I found myself reporting on a campaign of a very different kind. There were no velvet ropes, no rallies, no campaign planes or buses.

Last December 15, wearing a flak jacket and accompanied by armed security guards, I walked to a polling station in Iraq to cover the election of the country's first permanent government since Saddam Hussein was ousted. The situation in Baghdad is so tenuous that the closest the candidates could get to campaigning was putting ads on television and plastering the city with posters. Young men brave enough to distribute handbills for their favourite party did so with guns strapped to their sides.

The closest we got was a hurried interview in the garden outside our hotel with a politician named Mithal al-Alusi, a Sunni Iraqi whose optimism is rare in Baghdad. In his efforts to win influence in Iraq's new political reality, he's had 14 attempts on his life and lost two of his sons. But he still ran in the election, defying what appeared to be a determined effort to stop him in his tracks. Though he looked the part—in a sleek suit, carrying even sleeker business cards—this was a politician the likes of which I had never seen.

Over the past three years living in the Middle East, I've covered several elections that were very different from our own and that challenged my narrow definition of political reporting.

I watched as a group of supporters of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak sat in the foyer of a Cairo polling station last September singing slogans for the long-sitting president, while local election observers were barred from entry.

I frowned at the incongruity of a tank parked for security reasons outside a polling station in downtown Beirut on a sunny day last spring during Lebanon's elections. The Canadian election observers walking out of there looked entirely out of place next to a fully armed company of soldiers.

And I listened incredulously to a well-educated official in Saudi Arabia politely explain in late 2004 why the country's conservative society was not yet ready for the inclusion of women in the upcoming municipal elections.

But after turning these episodes over in my head, I began to see them differently. Iraq's election—for which the entire country had to be shut down for security reasons—attracted nearly 70 percent of eligible voters. Egypt's was the first multiple-candidate presidential election since Mubarak assumed power 24 years ago, and public criticism of his regime was aired. Lebanon's vote was the first in 30 years held without Syria's political influence. And Saudi Arabia's municipal elections have been hailed as the beginning of an expanded democratic process in which women are eventually expected to participate.

None of these elections resembled anything we in the West would define as ordinary, and some were designed to ensure a specific outcome. But to varying degrees, the people in these countries showed an unmistakable willingness to embrace the democratic process. That came through loud and clear—even without the lawn signs, rallies and campaign planes I once thought elections couldn't do without. ♣

ANSWERING THE CALL

Canadians from all walks of life are volunteering to help strengthen governance in developing countries around the world.

When the Canadian government looked for volunteers to help observe the repeat presidential election in Ukraine over Christmas in 2004, more than 4,000 Canadians came forward for the job. Following training in election observation, regional history, politics and intercultural effectiveness, a delegation of 463 people, led by former prime minister John Turner, was deployed across Ukraine in 20 teams. By taking part in the historic event, they had a chance to watch—and support—democracy in action.

The eight-day mission marked the inaugural deployment by Canada Corps, an initiative of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) that allows Canadians to travel to developing countries and fragile states and help all levels of government work in a more honest, effective and accountable way. Through Canada Corps, seasoned development veterans and enthusiastic youth alike offer their skills and expertise around the world to support democracy and human rights, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, entrepreneurship and gender equality. And they're willing to do so in insecure places.

"Canadians are eager to share their knowledge with other countries," says Claire Dansereau, Vice-President of Canada Corps at CIDA. "Their experiences abroad not only benefit developing countries by supporting good governance, they also enrich their own personal and professional lives. These people truly become part of our global community."

Since that first send-off of volunteers to Ukraine, Canada Corps has deployed Canadians to observe elections in a number of trouble spots, including Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon and Haiti. A team of 58 Canadians stepped forward to observe the Palestinian Legislative Council elections that took place on January 25. In that vote, as in many others in regions of instability, every precaution was taken to ensure that observers were out of harm's way, and a team of 58 Canadians stepped forward to the task.

"They did it for something they believed in," says Paul Adams, a former Middle East correspondent for *The Globe and Mail*, now teaching at Carleton University, who headed the Canadian observer mission. "They found joy and satisfaction and excitement in witnessing a free and open democratic process conducted under difficult circumstances."

For long-term observers, such assignments begin well in advance of the election, with observing the registration of voters and candidates. Short-term observers sent prior to the vote focus on election day, watching for transparency and



Democracy in action: A delegation of Canadians observed the repeat presidential election in Ukraine over Christmas 2004.

fair access to the ballot box and reporting their observations.

While observing elections is one area of focus for Canada Corps, the initiative, which employs a whole-of-government approach to policies and programs that affect developing countries, also supports a variety of other efforts centred on governance, from strengthening human rights in tsunami-affected areas of Indonesia to building the capacity of youth fighting HIV/AIDS in Lesotho.



Paul Adams (left) headed the Canadian observer mission in the Palestinian Legislative Council elections that took place in January

Engaging young people in international issues is also a priority for Canada Corps, with programs aimed at harnessing the energy of young Canadians who have a desire to gain international experience and make a difference in the world.

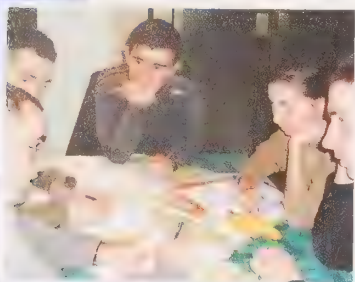
A program managed by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, for example, allows about 100 senior university students to experience governance issues first-hand while earning an academic credit. Through the program, four students at the University of Toronto helped develop a project with the University of Prishtina in Kosovo to strengthen student government and develop

practical skills in conflict resolution. A series of workshops brought together students, faculty, administration and the non-governmental community to discuss the role of student government within the university, and

to explore ways to apply Canadian experiences to the Kosovo context.

"We worked with them to create an ideal student government," says Ericka Stephens, a former student government president, "one that was independent and autonomous, as well as accessible and understandable to students."

At workshops held in Montenegro, Macedonia and Toronto, the Canadian students gave their Kosovo counterparts lots of ideas. The sharing went both ways, Stephens adds, which is the essence of the international exchange. "We learned what we had in common, and what was different," she says, "And how we could each take from those experiences." 🍀



Students from Canada and Kosovo worked together to strengthen student governance at the University of Prishtina.

PREPARED FOR ANY CONTINGENCY

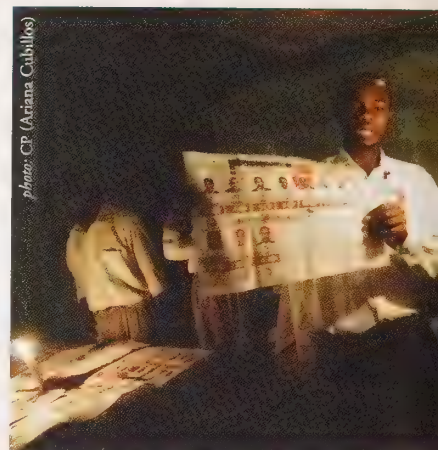
On the 50th anniversary of international peacekeeping, some 2,800 Canadian soldiers are stationed around the world in hot spots such as Haiti.

The staging of February's presidential and parliamentary elections in Haiti was an organizational feat unlike any Colonel Barry MacLeod had seen as a soldier in the Canadian Forces. First there were security issues caused by gangs and political agitators threatening to disrupt the vote. Then there was the logistical ordeal of coping with the country's difficult terrain and complex social and technical conditions.

Col. MacLeod's experience with elections in the past had been limited to casting a ballot. But as general manager of the Elections Assistance Task Force at the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), his job was to plan, organize and direct all UN logistical and security support for the elections, including the distribution and recovery of all electoral materials. His team saw to it that the vote so critical to Haiti's nation-building was successfully concluded despite the many challenges.

"Roads here are terrible; we got the elections material to where it had to be by all means of transportation," he says. "We used vehicles; we used coast guard vessels; we used dugout canoes; we used donkeys; we used horses; we used porters and we used helicopters."

On election day, people were still voting when night fell, Col. MacLeod



Election workers count ballots by candlelight in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

says, but with no electricity in huge areas of the country, the election day package included three candles per polling station. "You can't send batteries out with flashlights, because the batteries would be either pilfered or burned out before the time to use them," he says.

Col. MacLeod is among a half-dozen Canadian soldiers who are serving as key members of the United Nations-sponsored mission to Haiti.

Since four Canadian military officers were sent to Kashmir as part of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan in 1949 and the first official international peacekeeping force responded to the Suez Crisis of 1956, Canadian military personnel have regularly taken part in all manner of difficult assignments abroad. There have been missions to observe elections, implement peace settlements, support aid and human rights efforts and undertake civilian tasks such as police training.



The number of Canadian Forces personnel involved in operational missions around the world varies and today stands at more than 2,800, says Colonel Denis Thompson,

Director of Peacekeeping Policy for the Department of National Defence in Ottawa.

They serve in a wide range of capacities. The largest mission is in Afghanistan, where more than 2,200 members of the Canadian military are stationed, largely in conjunction with the country's commitment to the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar. But Canadians are also serving in small numbers in Iraq, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Haiti, the Middle East, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Ethiopia.

For example, 11 Canadian Forces members are stationed in Sierra Leone, teaching the army there how to work with the country's civilian authority, Col. Thompson says. Another 13 Canadian soldiers are working in the office of Afghan President Hamid Karzai providing training in strategic planning.

"Some missions involve capacity building and some literally involve answering the call of the UN," Col. Thompson says, adding that

missions usually last six months to a year. Canadians tend to get high-profile positions, he says, because of Canada's experience and the quality of Canadian officers.

In Haiti, for example, Col. MacLeod served for eight months in 2004 as the chief of staff of MINUSTAH, for which he was recently awarded the Meritorious Service Decoration by Governor General Michaëlle Jean. He returned three months ago as the general manager of the Elections Assistance Task Force at the request of the special representative of the secretary general. The current chief of staff, Colonel Michel Duhamel, is also a Canadian. Col. Duhamel is effectively third in command of the international security operation in the country, which involves 7,500 soldiers from some 20 countries.

"The challenge with Haiti is the complexity of the mission, where many national and international players and interests converge," says Col. Duhamel. "Haiti is like a pot of boiling stew on a hot stove. The military can keep the pot from exploding, but only political and socio-economic solutions can turn the heat down." He explained that some of the countries involved in MINUSTAH have never before contributed military contingents to international missions. In addition,

Organizational feat: Uruguayan peacekeepers protect electoral materials being carried by donkey to the small town of Michelle in northeast Haiti.

the UN force there does not have free rein but must support and collaborate with the Haitian police force.

Col. Duhamel says the UN force ends up doing work considered too dangerous for the Haitian police—such as patrolling in the notorious Cité Soleil district of Port-au-Prince. It also steps in at demonstrations and armed confrontations.

During the recent vote, in addition to logistical problems, the UN forces had difficulty ensuring basic security for more than 800 voting centres, especially with gangs present and assaults on voting centres in some remote areas. Col. MacLeod adds. "In order to deliver material to such places you have to have a strong security force." ♦



Colonel Michel Duhamel (left) from Canada is chief of staff of the international security operation in Haiti, which involves 7,500 soldiers from some 20 countries.

ROCKING FOR A CAUSE IN PAKISTAN

A Canadian icon lends his talents to reconstruction in a devastated region.

Canada's Bryan Adams brought his music and compassion to Karachi, Pakistan, in January, thrilling a crowd of more than 10,000 at a concert that raised funds and awareness to help rebuild schools damaged in last October's massive earthquake.

The rock star performed some songs alongside popular Pakistani singer Shehzad Roy, who had invited him to the charity event for the Zindagi Trust, which helps to build schools for disadvantaged children, especially those living in the earthquake area of northern Pakistan.

Young fans singing along to the Canadian pop star's songs and sporting buttons declaring "I Rock for a Cause" cheered when told that ticket

sales would go toward building or rebuilding some 20 schools, and were treated to a fireworks display that lit up the night sky.

Adams said he was glad to discover new fans in Pakistan and to support the troubled region.

"I am here to perform for humanity," he told a news conference, adding that singing in Pakistan's largest city was "very exciting on many levels.... We are the first western artists to come and play a big concert here." He said he was pleased to be given the opportunity to raise some money to rebuild schools damaged in the earthquake. "The perception around the world right now of Pakistan obviously is a country in need of help, and as a Canadian I am very happy and very proud to be part of this."

David Collins, the Canadian High Commissioner to Pakistan, said the rock star "is a Canadian icon of whom we are very proud," not only for his music and celebrity photography but also his philanthropy.

"Bryan Adams is but one example of the thousands of individual Canadians who have responded to the earthquake with their own personal contributions to charitable and aid organizations, who are able to make a real difference in the lives of the survivors," Mr. Collins said.

The 7.6-magnitude earthquake that struck South Asia on October 8, 2005, killed more than 73,000 people, destroying roads and schools and leaving nearly three million homeless.

The Government of Canada responded quickly and generously to the tragedy, with support geared to



Music and compassion: Canadian rock star Bryan Adams acknowledges the crowd during the benefit concert in Karachi.



Popular Pakistani singer Shehzad Roy (left) invited Bryan Adams to the charity event for the Zindagi Trust, which helps to build schools for disadvantaged children, especially those living in the earthquake area of northern Pakistan.

meet urgent relief and early recovery needs. To date, Canada has contributed more than \$77 million, including deploying the Disaster Assistance Response Team to the affected area to provide clean water and primary health care and other assistance in the first weeks following the disaster.

Zindagi Trust said that it hoped to raise 20 million rupees (\$400,000) through the rock concert to build and rebuild schools. Salman Iqbal, president of the local television channel ARY Digital and organizer of the charity event, said that the concert also had symbolic meaning. "Music is something that can bring countries and cultures together." 🍁

Learn more about Canada's High Commission in Pakistan at www.international.gc.ca/islamabad and the Zindagi Trust at www.zindagitrust.org.

THE HOME FRONT

A Canadian aid worker found he needed to come home to change the world.

Daniel Germain's mission to help the world's children began almost two decades ago on a mountain of garbage in Mexico City that stretched almost as far as he could see.

He watched in horror as kids scrambled from flimsy cardboard homes tucked amid the stinking trash toward trucks unloading yet more garbage.

"They were jumping on the back of the trucks and they started digging as quickly as they could," Germain remembers. The image of the young people frantically unearthing scraps to eat and other castoffs "really shook me... It's unbelievable that as a society we let those things happen."

What he saw that day in 1989 at the age of 26 transformed Germain, a Montreal native who was in Mexico helping aid groups there.

"I always had from that point on a sense of destiny," he says. "I wanted to change the world of children."

Germain brought that determination back to Canada, where he founded an organization to provide hot breakfasts to underprivileged schoolchildren in Quebec. He's now working to expand his successful formula across the country and out into the world.

The accomplishments are all the more amazing given Germain's own childhood. He spent years in foster care and was often in trouble as a teen, culminating with getting arrested for bringing drugs into the United States in his early 20s.

The time in Mexico represented the start of Germain's search for a more meaningful life. He spent several

photo: courtesy of Club des petits déjeuners du Québec



Seeing the condition of poor children abroad prompted Daniel Germain to start the organization providing hot breakfasts to underprivileged schoolchildren in Quebec.

years working with non-governmental organizations there and in Haiti and had every intention of continuing his overseas work when a question from a development worker stopped him in his tracks. She applauded his efforts abroad, but urged him to describe what he was doing in his own country.

Initially insulted, Germain gradually came to see her point. "It was impossible to have a vision for the world if you don't have a vision for your home."

He started the Club des petits déjeuners du Québec (Quebec Breakfast Club) in 1994 in one primary school. Today, the group operates in almost 200 schools, feeding and working to boost the self-esteem of 14,000 children in the province. It has also attracted private sponsors such as the National Bank of Canada and the Couche-Tard chain of stores. Germain recently established Breakfast Clubs of Canada to bring together and expand the 2,400 different



photo: Marie-Reine Marten

school meal programs across the country. One million Canadian kids arrive at school with empty bellies but only a quarter of them receive food there, he says.

The Quebec club's success has caught the eye of the World Food Programme (WFP), which feeds 16 million schoolchildren in some 50 countries. Arlene Mitchell, a director of the WFP in Rome, says the United Nations agency has spoken with Germain about collaborating to help more of the world's 300 million hungry children, and worked with his club last year on a charity walk to fight hunger.

"The club is doing some things that are somewhat unique and we sought to learn ... whether they might be applicable to programs elsewhere," Mitchell says.

The WFP is particularly interested in the fact that the group gets much of its funding from private contributions, while most programs worldwide rely on government sources, Mitchell says. As well, it is the only program she knows of that has activities aimed at building self-esteem. ♣

Nourishing young minds: A student at École Ste-Claire de Brossard in Montreal has breakfast provided by the Club des petits déjeuners du Québec.

Find out more about the Club des petits déjeuners du Québec at www.clubdejeuners.org.

DISARMING AFRICA ONE FACE AT A TIME

Diplomat Bob Fowler has a passion for Africa. As he retires after almost four decades in Canada's foreign service, he takes with him more than just memories.

Diplomacy is all about words, but sometimes pictures do speak louder. As evidence, one need look no further than the office of Bob Fowler, Canada's Ambassador to Italy and the Prime Minister's

Personal Representative for Africa. The white-washed room in a former seniors' residence in Rome is lined with more than 100 framed photographs taken by Mr. Fowler around the world.

From many of them gaze the faces of Africans pictured in some of the most dangerous and destitute regions of the continent. Yet these faces reveal more hope than hardship, more pride than privation. They are images that reflect Mr. Fowler's passion for Africa, and for capturing through photography the strength and dignity of those who live there.

In a foreign service career that has spanned almost four decades, Mr. Fowler has travelled to most parts of the world, "including some of our time's

most appalling circumstances," witnessing the ravages of civil war, genocide and grinding poverty in places such as Somalia, Rwanda, Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, northern Uganda and Darfur. Yet, at 61, and planning for retirement this summer, he looks back on a multi-faceted life reflected in the faces of his pictures.

"Through photography, I've sought to explore who we are, where and how we live, what unites and divides us, and to celebrate the indomitable human spirit," he says.

Mr. Fowler has worn many hats that have allowed him to combine the two deep interests he's had since he was a teenager: a fascination with Africa and an equally intense ardour for photography.

Born in Ottawa and raised in Montreal, in 1968 Mr. Fowler travelled to Central Africa to teach English at the new Université nationale du Rwanda in Butare. It was a position in which he says he learned much more than he taught. And it was there he caught "the Africa bug."

Although he is inextricably linked to Africa, he has never been posted there. He joined Canada's foreign service in 1969 and had assignments in Paris and two postings to Canada's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York, but also held a number of senior positions in Ottawa, including serving in the Privy Council Office from 1980 to 1986 as Foreign



Faces of hope: Canadian Ambassador Bob Fowler visits a refugee camp near Gulu in northern Uganda.

Policy Advisor to prime ministers Pierre Trudeau, John Turner and Brian Mulroney. He was Assistant Deputy Minister (Policy) in the Department of National Defence from 1986 to 1989, and Deputy Minister of Defence from 1989 to 1995.

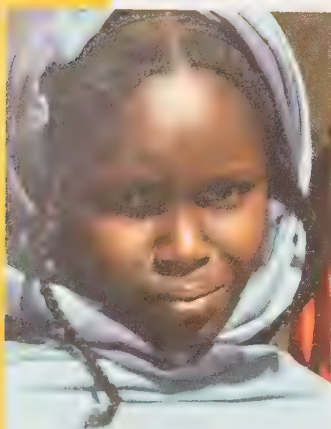
But Africa has always beckoned. As Canada's Ambassador to the UN from 1995 to 2000, he travelled widely there as chair of the Angola Sanctions Committee, participating in the successful effort to bring the 25-year-old civil war that had devastated Angola to an end.

His assignment as Ambassador to Italy (as well as Albania, Malta and tiny San Marino) in late 2000 meant that he would continue to travel widely on the continent as Canada's permanent representative to the UN agencies based in Rome: the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Nine months after being posted to Italy, Mr. Fowler was appointed as the Prime Minister's g8 Personal Representative (Sherpa), requiring him to return to Canada for a year to prepare and organize the June 2002 Kananaskis Summit. "Double-hatted"



ICRC hospital, Kigali, Rwanda



Kebkabiya Village, North Darfur, Sudan



as the Prime Minister's Personal Representative for Africa, he led the development of the G8 Africa Action Plan

adopted at Kananaskis, which contained 110 commitments undertaken by the G8 in response to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the African-led, visionary initiative aimed at achieving sustainable development and poverty reduction in partnership with the international community.

On his return to Rome in July 2002, he continued to play a large role in African affairs, still acting as the Prime Minister's Personal Representative for Africa and representing Canada at the Africa Partnership Forum, which brings together high-level representatives from Africa and the G8 and other donors and agencies to monitor the implementation of commitments made in relation to NEPAD.

Last May he was named head of the Prime Minister's Special Advisory Team on Sudan, which included senators Mobina Jaffer and Roméo Dallaire. The team has coordinated and developed Canada's effort to resolve the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Darfur, where hundreds of thousands of people have been killed and nearly half the population now lives in camps. Mr. Fowler spent a month last year travelling in all three Darfuri states and eastern Chad to assess the situation and report back to the Prime Minister. As the effort to bring peace to Darfur continues,

he has worked with partner countries, the UN and the African Union to establish an effective ceasefire and a durable peace through inter-factional negotiations.

Mr. Fowler has taken a particular interest in the ravages of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and the links between the disease, drought and food insecurity in southern Africa. He has also promoted efforts to put an end to the actions of the Lord's Resistance Army in northern Uganda, which, in addition to exacerbating the crisis in Sudan, have resulted in the abduction of more than 30,000 children and condemned 1.7 million people—90 percent of the northern Ugandan population—to living in squalid, largely forgotten and under-supported refugee camps.

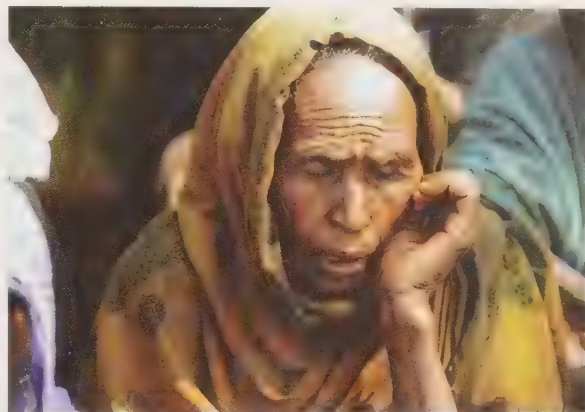
Through it all he takes photos, although he says he has "not sought to chronicle the immediate horror of such situations," leaving that to other, "braver" photojournalists.

He and his wife Mary, an employee of the Canadian International Development Agency who headed the UN Mine Action Unit in New York and now manages grants and trust funds for the World Food Programme, have four grown daughters whom he says "have inherited our fascination with peoples, cultures and environments." They also have two grandchildren and are about to have a third.

Mr. Fowler's favourite photographic subject "to the exclusion of almost everything else has been people; principally, faces." His pictures of Africans of many diverse cultures and nations—and their struggles inspire him most.



Bunia Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp, Ituri Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo



Central Ethiopia



Lalibela, Ethiopia



Krindling II, IDP camp, West Darfur, Sudan

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"Over much of what for me has been an exciting and fulfilling career, I've been engaged with the challenge of building bridges across the ever-widening gulf between the fortunate few and the increasingly desperate many," he says. "It will take time and significant effort before we see sustained progress... There are some positive signs. There are some visionary leaders."

In a few countries there has been sustained growth, he says, but conflict continues to wipe out progress and cause massive suffering, and there are persistent instances of bad leadership and governance, although fewer than five or 10 years ago.

"It's certainly a challenge, and there are really good days and really bad days," he says. "You can't be optimistic or pessimistic. You have to be realistic. Almost a billion people cannot simply be left out or even behind." 🍁

**See Ambassador
Bob Fowler's photographs
at www.robertrfowler.com.**



Zam Zam IDP camp,
North Darfur, Sudan



Jabel Marra, South Darfur,
Sudan



Bunia IDP camp, Ituri Province,
Democratic Republic of the
Congo



World Food Programme
Food for Work, Kibungo,
Rwanda



World Vision feeding station for
AIDS victims, northern Uganda



Zam Zam IDP camp,
North Darfur, Sudan

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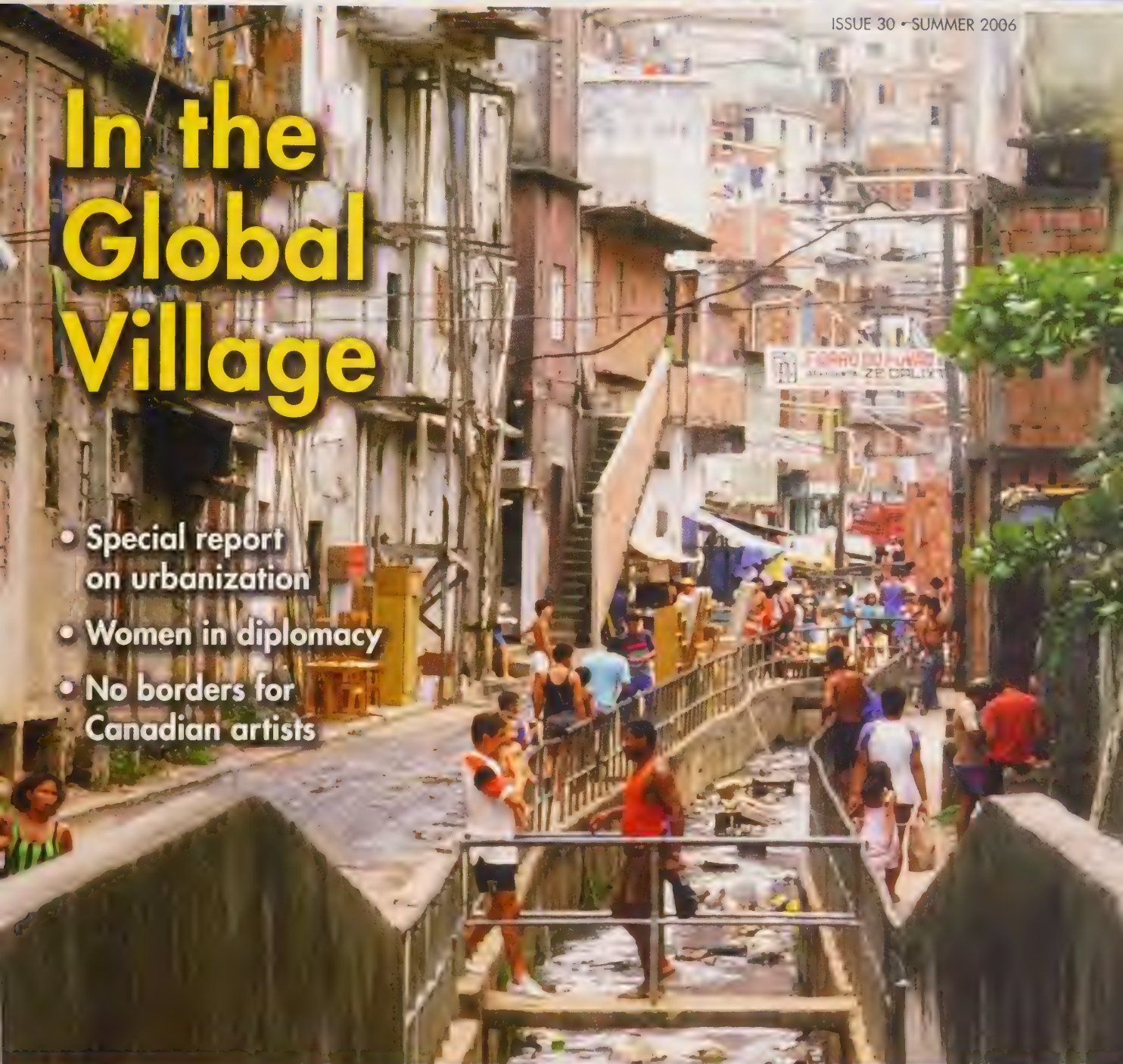
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In the Global Village

- Special report
on urbanization
- Women in diplomacy
- No borders for
Canadian artists



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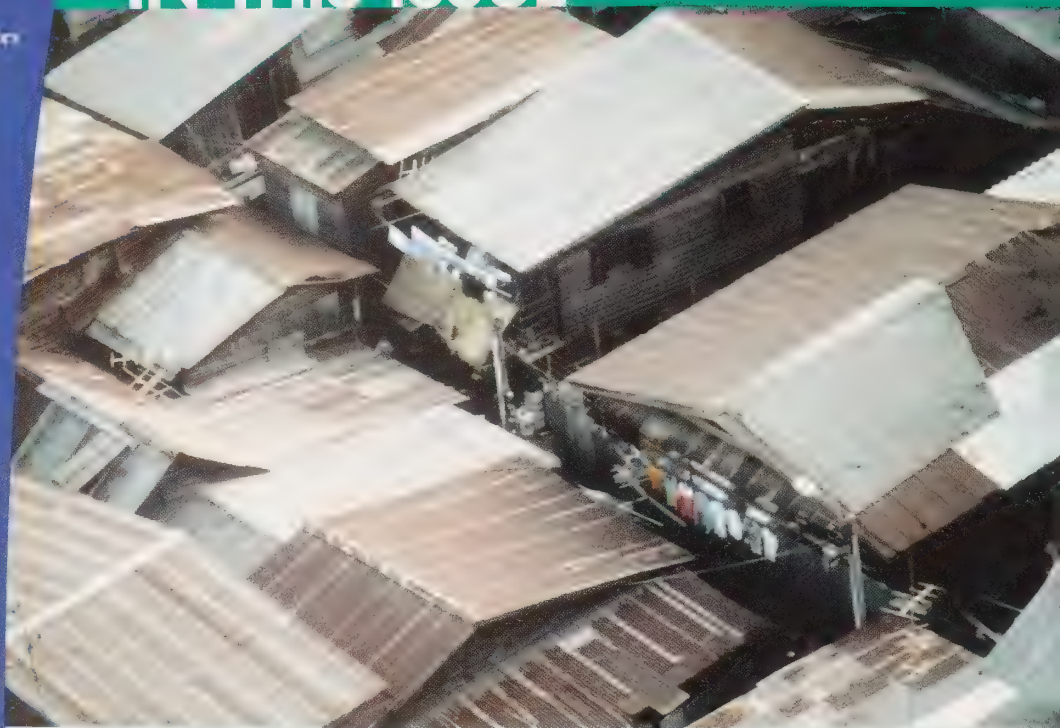
People going about their daily lives traverse a large polluted drainage ditch in Rocinha, a favela or shantytown in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Rocinha is the largest favela in Brazil.
Photo: Peter St. Jacques/AGF World

This page

A patchwork of corrugated metal roofs and laundry on slum dwellings in Bangkok, Thailand.
Photo: Peter St. Jacques/AGF World

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URBAN PLANET

The global village is growing. A major conference on urbanization hosted by Canada has revealed that the “human tsunami” from rural to urban areas is making cities vibrant places of economic growth, while presenting myriad challenges with international implications.

Dhaka is a city in crisis. Ancient sewers in the Bangladeshi capital are leaking. Drinking water is dirty. The poorest of the poor live in spreading, squalid slums, their shacks lining waterways brimming with human waste, rotting garbage and a stew of chemicals. Cows and goats that drink from these waters die.

“Dhaka is falling apart at the seams,” says John Carter, a Canadian environmental consultant based in Halifax who has worked on a number of development projects in the city.

In the residential neighbourhood of Hazaribagh, dozens of leather tanneries dump toxic effluent into an already filthy river and lake. Carter, who has travelled to many slums, believes it may be the most polluted spot on earth. “You can’t really stand there for more than a minute because the air is so caustic it literally burns the inside of your nose.”

Yet Carter, who has worked in Dhaka on an environmental management project supported by Canada, is struck by how the local people go about normal activities like working, eating and washing clothes amidst the smell and extreme pollution. “It’s kind of like urban anarchy, but people have adapted, or accepted their fate.”

Indeed, people keep coming—and coming—making Dhaka the fastest-growing urban centre in the world. According to United Nations estimates, in less than a decade Dhaka will rank second among the planet’s 10 largest cities, with some 23 million inhabitants.

Cities across the developing world can tell similar tales of rapid growth, as people abandon rural areas for cities in search of a better life—and stay. Governments of every level are struggling to respond to the challenges as earth begins its first century as a mostly urban planet.

Rapid migration from rural to urban areas is changing how Canada is looking at development, says Tarik Khan, a director in the policy branch of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). “We have to find ways to ensure that place matters in addition to particular sectors for development.”



◀ “People have adapted, or accepted their fate”: Canadian environmental consultant John Carter surveys the banks of the Buriganga River in Dhaka.

Canada has helped put this key emerging issue on the international agenda. In Vancouver in June the Government of Canada hosted the third World Urban Forum, a major conference on urbanization. Canadians have also developed numerous initiatives targeting big-city problems around the world.

“Managing the transition to an urban planet and sustaining the dynamic evolution of cities into the future will be one of this century’s fundamental challenges,” says Keith Christie, Director General of the Environment, Energy and Sustainable Development Bureau at Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT). “Poor governance, the proliferation of slums, limited access to clean water and dignified sanitation contribute to poor environmental and social conditions with international implications. Canada’s hosting of the World Urban Forum represents an important contribution toward sharing solutions to these problems.”

The migration equation

The scale of the migration is staggering. Each day, some 180,000 people move into cities. By next year, more of the world’s people will live in urban areas than rural areas. In less than 25 years, it’s expected that two of every three people will be in cities.

Canada is already one of the most urban countries in the world, with 80 percent of the population living in cities. Other wealthy countries have also made the transition from a rural to a largely urban way of life.



▲ In the Dharavi slum in Mumbai, India, a girl stands by an open sewer.



Developing nations are now catching up, in a shift that is creating monumental problems for the world's poorest people. It will be necessary to build the equivalent of a

city of one million people — a new Calgary — every week for the next 45 years to absorb these urban citizens.

The new city dwellers will need services and amenities from water and electricity to homes, schools and health care. They will also bring

with them difficult environmental and social problems — urban sprawl, power and transportation shortages, garbage and countless other issues.

A Canadian legacy

Canada has long played an important role in global urban issues. Vancouver played host 30 years ago to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, called Habitat, the first UN forum to look at what was needed to respond to growing urban populations. The 1976 conference attracted the likes of Mother Teresa, anthropologist Margaret Mead and futurist Buckminster Fuller.

Canada by this time had started emphasizing the importance of linking global environmental threats with urbanization, says Peter Oberlander, who was then the federal deputy minister for urban affairs and remains one of Canada's most prominent urban thinkers. "Canada said to the UN, 'If you are serious and you want to do something about the threat to the environment... you must deal with human settlements.'"

The Vancouver conference led to the creation of the United Nations Commission for Human Settlements, what is now UN-Habitat, the Nairobi-based agency for urban matters. Now, 30 years later, Canada has once again taken centre stage on the issue by hosting thousands of municipal officials, government representatives, planners, academics, business people and activists from June 19 to 23 at UN-Habitat's World Urban Forum (WUF) in Vancouver, the third biennial meeting of its kind.

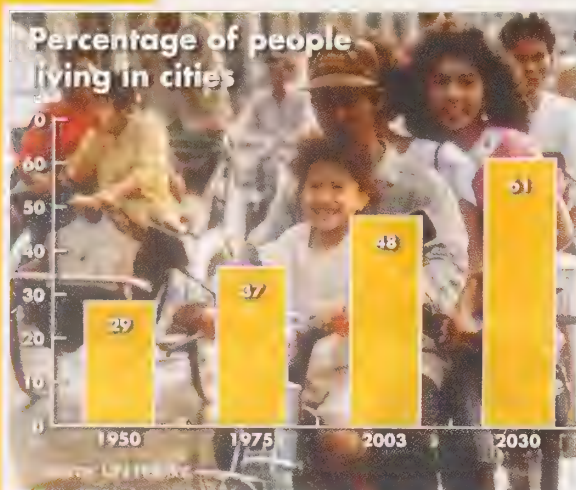
In the keynote address to open the forum, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper told delegates that "urbanization is a powerful, irresistible phenomenon" and healthy cities are the key to the world's future.

"Throughout history, great cities have been a hallmark of successful societies," he said, adding that Canadian cities with their diversity "are widely recognized as among the best in the world" but remain "works-in-progress."

The Government of Canada has made strengthening the country's cities a top priority, he said, through measures such as investing \$16.5-billion in infrastructure projects, addressing the growth of violent crime related to gangs, guns and drugs, and helping to encourage public transit and provide affordable housing. "We will continue working to make our cities safer, cleaner and more prosperous than ever."

Charles Kelly, a Vancouver businessman who was the forum's commissioner general, says the world must pay attention to urbanization because of its potentially harmful impact on the environment worldwide. Kelly's own passion for city issues has its roots in that first Habitat conference in Vancouver, where he played an organizing role. "This was the early days of what has sometimes been characterized as the human tsunami, the mass movement of people to cities, and a very substantial number of those people into slums," he says. "Since Habitat, the problems of human settlements not only have persisted, they have multiplied manyfold in size, scope and complexity."

To Kelly, it's no accident that the recent WUF was held in Vancouver. The city, which will also host the 2010 Winter Games, has become internationally recognized as a showpiece of urban livability and has won awards for its environmental efforts and long-range planning.



Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper speaks at the opening session of the World Urban Forum in Vancouver: "Urbanization is a powerful, irresistible phenomenon."

The forum's theme was sustainable cities, with the aim of sending all participants home with at least one good idea to act on and improve the quality of life in their communities. Observers say the challenges are numerous, complex and lack one-size-fits-all solutions. "Everything is interrelated here," Kelly says. "There are no magic bullets."

The environmental challenge

Cities use 75 percent of the world's resources and account for a similar percentage of its waste. The challenge is to make them develop sustainably even as they grow monumentally.

"The top opportunity is to connect the natural environment and its need for stewardship with the human environment that needs space and place for people to live and work," Oberlander says. "It takes very little to tip the scale."

Oberlander—whose wife, Cornelia Hahn Oberlander, is a landscape architect specializing in "green" design, for instance drawing inspiration from Canada's Mackenzie River system in designing the garden roof on the new Canadian embassy in Berlin—argues that people must think about land as a precious resource and allocate it accordingly.

Urban sprawl is eating up crucial farmland and making people more dependent on cars. Although planners stress more compact urban design or "densification," the demand from homebuyers for large properties in ever-widening city outskirts remains high. Cities range from the extremely dense—such as Hong Kong, with 5,000 people per hectare—to suburban Toronto, Johannesburg and Los Angeles, where there are only about 100 people per hectare.

Cities are also grappling with the demand among growing populations for energy. Powering urban areas in a sustainable way requires using more renewable forms of energy as well as conservation. San Diego, for example, has won international acclaim for its wide-ranging efforts to save energy, including producing electricity from a landfill's methane gas and upgrading the local police headquarters to become virtually self-sufficient in terms of energy.

The social cost

The social price of rapid urbanization has been high in developing countries. Roughly one billion people—one in six of the world's inhabitants—live in slums. That number is expected to double within 25 years.

One of the world's worst slums is Kibera in UN-Habitat's host city, Nairobi. Here, several hundred thousand people are jammed into tiny shacks that line filthy, narrow laneways and stinking brown streams. Clean water, electricity and cooking fuel are in short supply—and usually come at a high cost. Pit latrines in crime-ridden neighbourhoods are so dangerous to use at night that

Remembering Jane Jacobs

Jane Jacobs, the Canadian writer and activist who died in April at the age of 89, was one of the most original thinkers of our time on urban issues. Jacobs' most important work was the influential and controversial *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, published in 1961. "The point of cities is multiplicity of choice," she wrote, championing new approaches to planning that respected people's preferences and behaviour and inspired generations of urban activists. A brave, singular voice challenging the dominant theories of the planning establishment, the self-taught Jacobs gave the world a fresh look at what makes cities work and what makes them fail.



A new approach to cities: The late writer and activist Jane Jacobs.

residents resort to what are known as "flying toilets": plastic bags filled with human waste tossed out of windows.

From this place of misery came a plea for help, a message from a slum dweller tapped out on a computer in rudimentary English during a global online "jam" sponsored by Canada and organized in the lead-up to the WUF event: *"My name is Hawa i live in Kibera i am a widow my husband passed away and left me with 8 children who are not even going to school because of lack of money. We live in a one bedroomed house with my eight children. i would like the gornment to build houses and offer less rent for everyone to afford."*

Securing cities

As more people flock to cities, urban spaces are where human security will be strengthened or threatened. Cities can be conflict-resilient, as different groups interact and build trust, while democratic authorities empower people to interact with the level of government closest to them.

Nonetheless, rapid urbanization, extreme poverty and failed public security in cities can lead to violence—exemplified by last year's riots in Paris, the ongoing civil strife in the Cité Soleil slum of Port-au-Prince in Haiti, and the recent brazen gang assaults on police and civilian targets in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

"We are seeing an unsustainable number of people move to cities," says Maciek Hawrylak of the Human Security Policy Division at DFAIT. "Local authorities are unable or unwilling to provide security in some cases, with the result that people are forced to ensure their own safety."

The wealthy fill the security void with private guards, while in slums, armed vigilante groups and gangs take over entire communities, Hawrylak says.

Mexico City alone is home to some 1,500 gangs. In nearly half the cities of Latin America and the Caribbean there are neighbourhoods where police fear to go or avoid

altogether. Slums are particularly dangerous for children, given the lethal mixture of kids, guns and gangs in those environments.

Rio de Janeiro's long-running conflict between police and drug gangs has seen levels of violence comparable to those experienced by countries undergoing civil war. More people, particularly children, were killed by armed violence in the city's slums between 1978 and 2000 than in Colombia's civil strife over the same period.

Finding solutions

Many of the world's fastest-growing cities are least able to afford the basic services that new urban citizens require. In Africa, city dwellers multiplied 10-fold between 1950 and 2000, with another doubling expected by 2020. Two thirds of Africa's urban citizens live in slums.

Solutions that focus on governance often get to the heart of the matter. The Philippine port city of Iloilo—one of the fastest-growing places in the country—was struggling in the early 1990s with problems such as inadequate drinking water, poor air quality and poverty. With the help of the Canadian Urban Institute (CUI), a unique partnership was devised between the city and surrounding communities to begin solving these problems and launch a promising economic development plan.

The CUI, with Canadian support, helped local officials in Iloilo create a consensus-based regional development council, modelled in part on the Greater Vancouver Regional District. The key, says Iloilo Mayor Jerry Treñas, was for officials across the region to come up with a collective solution. "The issues we faced spilled from one jurisdiction to the next," he says. "To move forward we knew we needed to come together." Now the region

Big cities

In 1950, only one city, New York, had a population of more than 10 million. By 2015, 23 cities, most of them in developing countries, will have populations of more than 10 million.

source: UN-Habitat

works cooperatively, for example in tourism programs that promote travel to heritage buildings and festivals in the city core as well as surrounding farms, villages and distant white sand beaches.

The International Development Research Centre is looking at ways to improve the lives of slum dwellers while also protecting the environment as part of its Focus Cities Research Initiative, with projects aimed at everything from creating "edible neighbourhoods" to developing a dishwashing liquid that has a less harmful impact on soil (*see story on page 8*).

Environmental sustainability and local governance are the focus of urban initiatives by CIDA, which invests more than \$100 million a year on projects with an urban reach. For example, a municipal development group is working with local officials in 18 West African countries on issues such as ensuring local democratic governance and citizen input into anti-poverty efforts and training municipal employees and elected officials. In Haiti, a CIDA program has helped bring sustainable electricity service to the city of Jacmel. With reliable power in their homes and businesses 24 hours a day, residents have begun to regularly pay their energy bills, which has given Jacmel a level of social and economic development not seen elsewhere in Haiti.

The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has worked with UN-Habitat to show developing countries how to use satellite images and specialized computer systems to improve urban planning. For example, pictures from space can help identify areas vulnerable to mudslides or estimate the number of people in slums, providing key information in deciding where to install public water taps or build roads.

Pierre Lanciault, a CMHC manager, worked with the Kenyan city of Nakuru to show officials there how such images could be used to locate services in densely populated areas. "When we looked at the data, we showed them that a planned well was in the same watershed as a garbage dump," Lanciault says.

Many Canadian companies are showcasing their expertise in sustainable development technologies and services in rapidly growing cities. Baird and Associates, a coastal engineering firm based in Ottawa, is working with support from the federal government to turn a polluted and dusty canal bed running through the city of Viña del Mar, Chile, into a park-lined waterway.

In Matamoros, Mexico, Golder Associates, an international engineering and environmental services firm based in Toronto, is preparing a plan to close an existing dump



An informal settlement on Iloilo River: The Philippine port city of Iloilo has begun to solve its problems through a unique partnership with surrounding communities.

and collect energy from converted waste materials as well as build a modern landfill.

Under the CU's international program, local government employees and other urban professionals from Canada volunteer on projects around the world aimed at promoting excellence in the governance and management of cities. "What we work on is the quality of urban life," says David Crombie, the former federal cabinet minister and Toronto mayor, who is now president and CEO of the institute.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities runs a similar initiative through its International Centre for Municipal Development. The centre, with support from Canada, allows officials in Canadian cities to help their international counterparts offer better services.

A new international policy lens

Global urbanization raises new issues for international affairs, particularly in areas such as development and immigration, says Canada's High Commissioner to Kenya, James Wall, who is Canada's Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat.

Mr. Wall says that challenges such as urban decay are "emerging issues" that will affect how Canada spends international assistance dollars. He adds that Canada must attract would-be immigrants to its cities from the so-called "global creative" class.

"Certain cities seem to have the key to success in terms of getting balance in life—providing a humane living environment and being able to attract talented people necessary for ongoing economic, social and cultural growth," Mr. Wall says. "That's certainly something Canada should be concentrating on."

The country has a key advantage in this area—one that is a lesson for the world's cities, he says. "Canada's multiculturalism policy has shown itself to allow for harmonious integration for people from around the world... We do have something to offer by way of example."

The road ahead

The World Urban Forum meeting in Vancouver was a bridge to the fourth WUF session, which will be held in 2008 in Nanjing, China.

Canadian organizers are helping the next host city prepare for the event, mindful that China is a country dealing with massive urbanization. Between now and 2020, an additional 300 million Chinese are expected to move to cities; five of the world's 10 most polluted cities are in China.

"The need to focus on the issue of urbanization and the opportunities for Canadians to have an influence couldn't be clearer," says Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay. "We are looking at an international issue that needs concerted, long-range solutions."



Photo: CP / Ariana Cabillos

Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay meets with Haitian President René Préval in June. A program sponsored by Canada in Haiti has helped bring sustainable electrical service to Jacmel, giving the city a level of social and economic development not seen elsewhere in Haiti.

Indeed, in the midst of dire problems in many cities, there is reason for optimism.

Canadian environmental consultant John Carter found hope in Dhaka in the fact the Bangladeshi government agreed to act on environmental recommendations from the Canadian team there. Plastic shopping bags, a major pollutant constantly clogging already fragile drainage systems, are now banned in Dhaka. Police enforce the prohibition by issuing on-the-spot fines for storekeepers who use them.

Also gone are Dhaka's "baby taxis," which burned both oil and petroleum, spewing deadly black exhaust into the air. By government order, they've been replaced with vehicles that run on compressed natural gas. "These are indications of government will and commitment," Carter says, "and that's the key."

This also sets an example for others facing air pollution challenges. "Initiatives such as switching to compressed natural gas have great potential for replication in other crowded urban centres in South Asia," says Hau Sing Tse, vice president of the Asia Branch at CIDA.

For Charles Kelly, the WUF commissioner general, hope comes from an image that has stayed with him from a visit to a slum in Jakarta, Indonesia. There he watched as dozens of men and women left their shacks perfectly turned out in pressed white shirts and smart outfits, bound for jobs or schools.

"The hard work and tenacious spirit you find in these places fill one with hope," Kelly says. "They move to cities for a better life. Their aspirations need to be backed up by the rest of the world." ♣

For more information on the World Urban Forum visit www.wuf3-fum3.ca.

FIGHTING URBAN POVERTY WITH GREEN KNOW-HOW

In the Malika district of Dakar, Senegal, the local population ekes out an existence in the shadow of towering mountains known as Mbeubeuss. They tend vegetable patches, run small businesses and live like many people around the developing world.

But this place is different. The mountains here are made up entirely of garbage that stinks and smoulders and threatens to come sliding down with deadly force when it rains. Mbeubeuss is a working landfill site so polluted that a mayor of Dakar, Pape Diop, once called it a "danger for the whole country; a bomb about to explode."

Yet hundreds of people have come here from the surrounding rural areas looking for a better way of life and found inventive ways to remain in the midst of this environmental menace.

"You marvel at their ingenuity and their social organization," says Naser Faruqui, team leader of the new Urban Poverty and Environment Program at

site are grouped in the same way and have the same names as the villages in the countryside where these people came from."

Faruqui, who oversees an urban initiative aimed at transforming the dump dwellers' lives, was struck by a man who had amassed piles of plastic eyes, arms and legs and used them to repair scavenged dolls that, after his hard work, "looked quite good." One resident collected hair to create wigs. Many others picked through the garbage for scrap metal to sell.

This way of life—such as it is—will end in two to three years when Mbeubeuss closes and a modern landfill opens some 80 kilometres away. The challenge for IDRC, under its new Focus Cities Research Initiative, is twofold: finding new livelihoods for the doll maker and others who live here and rehabilitating the dump site into a useful and safe place.

A team of researchers, local people and government officials will consider moving some residents to the new dump, where they can be trained for official jobs. Another option is to offer garbage-collecting tasks in neighbourhoods around the old dump. As for Mbeubeuss itself, the team will study whether it can be transformed into an area for small businesses to set up shop. "If they're able to come up with ideas which make economic, social and environmental sense, then it may be a model for thousands of dump sites in Africa," Faruqui says.

Focus Cities reinforces Canada's commitment to fight poverty by reducing environmental impacts in urban areas. Faruqui says the urban

poor often get trapped because they settle on marginal land, where they face hazards such as a lack of water and sanitation and the threat of landslides and flooding.

"Because of their poverty, they're subject to these environmental burdens, which in turn make their poverty worse," Faruqui explains. "For example, if they have a lack of water supply and sanitation, then their kids might have diarrhea and they have to pay for medicines."

Focus Cities is part of a shift at IDRC, prompted by rapid urbanization, to focus more on urban research projects. Work has begun in four cities—Dakar; Kampala, Uganda; Colombo, Sri Lanka; and Jakarta, Indonesia—with plans to designate another four.

The Jakarta team will look for ways to bring clean water, sanitation and garbage collection to a huge slum where local governments are cash-strapped. The trick is to convince residents that it's worth paying part of the up-front cost of such services, says Faruqui, who notes that poor people typically end up paying 10 to 20 times more to bring in bottled water than rich people do for piped water.

In Kampala, the goal is to improve "urban agriculture," in part by finding alternatives to the common practice of irrigating crops with untreated waste water. The research team there will study ways to isolate less contaminated household waste water used for things like washing and treat it with simple biological filters so it can be used to irrigate gardens. 🌱



The doll maker of Mbeubeuss: In the giant Dakar landfill site, a man amasses piles of plastic eyes, arms and legs from discarded dolls and uses them to make new ones.

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC). "This is a community with moms, dads and kids... The settlements at the dump



PURSUING GLOBAL TRADE

Cities are competing for international profile, funds and skills.

When financial giant Deutsche Bank looked to expand its commodities operations beyond world financial centres such as Frankfurt, London and Singapore, it opened an office in Calgary, Alberta. New York's Goldman Sachs has also settled in the western Canadian city. The presence of two international financial services companies there signals a community that's marketing itself on the world stage.

Attracting such firms is a major step in drawing foreign trade and investment, and Calgary's success underscores an effort in which hundreds of Canadian municipalities today are engaged: looking for international profile, funds and skills.

"There's been a significant increase in awareness of municipal governments of their potential internationally," observes Brock Carlton, Director of the International Centre for Municipal Development at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in Ottawa. Carlton says that cities such as Vancouver receive several international delegations a week looking to strike up or advance business relationships. "The connections are expanding exponentially."

The phenomenon of cities acting as trading centres dates back more than 3,000 years, when legions of mariner traders set sail from the ports of ancient Phoenicia. The practice is becoming more common and evolving rapidly in an age of urbanization, notes Bob Schulz, professor of strategic

management at the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business, adding that benefits accrue to cities that market themselves directly.

"This is more targeted now," Schulz remarks. "There's less travelling to other places without knowing who is going to be on the other end."

There's also far more promotion of Canadian cities—or "clusters" of communities within regions—focusing on key economic sectors, which was a major topic of discussion at the World Urban Forum. "There's no question that the federal and provincial governments set the framework, but the really competitive area today is the region," comments Michael Darch of the Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation, which promotes Ottawa's knowledge-based industries.

For example, in setting itself up as a "hub" for the high-technology sector, Darch says, Ottawa competes more directly with California's Silicon Valley and India's high-technology centre in Bangalore than it does with Calgary, Vancouver or the so-called Canadian Technology Triangle around Kitchener-Waterloo and Guelph.

Canadian municipalities accentuate different specialties according to which international partner or industry they're approaching. Just east of Toronto, for example, the Regional Municipality of Durham is home to a major automobile manufacturing facility. However, it is primarily the region's status as a centre for nuclear power that will send a Durham delegation to India later this year to promote a 318-acre "energy park" near the Darlington nuclear power station.

"There are Indian companies looking to invest here and there may be opportunities in India for our companies," explains Doug Lindeblom, Director of Economic Development and Tourism for Durham, adding that the key today is partnerships between municipalities and companies in Canada and abroad.

The central driver in all this, of course, is globalization, which has created an imperative for cities to gain a presence in international markets.

"There's a more generalized competitiveness, not just for investment but for talent, for labour," says William Strange, a professor of urban economics at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management.

Cities have long collaborated in areas such as transportation and physical planning, and now cooperate on fiscal management issues through tax-base sharing. In an era of globalization, cities are joining together through networks. One such network, called the North American International Trade Corridor Partnership, is designed to build a huge regional market, facilitating contact between businesses, organizing virtual trade missions and putting together a huge directory of enterprises that can be consulted online. ♦

Regional trade offices of DFAIT in cities across the country provide trade development services and assistance to Canadian businesses. Visit www.infoexport.gc.ca/regions.

World stage: Cities such as Calgary are taking major steps in drawing foreign trade and investment.

YOUTH IN AN URBAN AGE

As the world's cities grow, the number of young people—and their problems—are exploding.

Some 60 percent of the world's population will live in cities by 2030 and as many as 60 percent of these urban dwellers will be under the age of 18. Already, rapid urbanization is accompanied in developing countries by acute social problems, from homelessness and alienation to massive unemployment, overcrowding and the rise of violence and gang activity in growing slums.

such as urban agriculture and skills development. "Young people make up such a large percentage of cities...we have to try to get at this capacity young people have."

Jess Conn-Potegal, a member of the youth organizing committee for the recent World Urban Forum, agrees. "If we don't involve young people, then we're not creating solutions." The problems of urbanization, he says, include gang activity, violence and poverty in city slums, all of which have a disproportionate effect on young people. "The negative things that happen in the slums happen because of a sense of hopelessness."

Indeed, poorly policed slums are generating conditions for what are effectively "urban child soldiers." Young people growing up in crowded households spend more time on the streets, making them targets for recruitment into armed gangs or insurgent groups. Disenchanted youth find criminal activity to be a source of social mobility, self-esteem and economic opportunity.

"Slums are among the most dangerous places in the world to live, especially for kids," says Sarah Houghton of the Human Security Policy Division at DFAIT. Children as young as seven end up recruited by gangs, she says, becoming involved in arms and drug trafficking or the sex trade. It's an issue that Canada, as "a strong advocate of human security and a people-centred approach to foreign policy," sees as increasingly urgent, she adds.

In many developing countries, youth discontented with life in rural communities or forced out by civil conflict are joining the migration into cities, where they also face dismal prospects.

"Most of these young people feel they have no place in the world," says Eleanor Douglas of Save the Children Canada in Bogota, Colombia. She works with children affected by armed conflict in a program sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency. Douglas says that families have been "torn asunder" by decades of displacement, as well as by the "availability of arms and quick profits from the narcotics business, lack of meaningful work, and little access to relevant education."

Stan Williams of the Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association in Vancouver believes that dialogue on the issue can have an important impact. Williams, 29, an Aboriginal person from the Ketegaunseebee Garden River First Nation and Ohsweken First Nation reserves of Ontario, travelled with three colleagues to communities around Colombia last November setting up World Urban Cafés—open public forums on such urban problems as homelessness, crime and youth unemployment.

The Café program, which has staged more than 75 events in Africa, India, China, South America and Canada, includes discussion among young people, as well as music and performances. Williams says it has been an amazing experience to see participants bring their concerns forward. "One of our greatest results was having young people's voices heard." 🍁

Learn about the World Urban Forum and youth at www.eya.ca/wuf.



Youths in the shantytown of Jalousie in Port-au-Prince, Haiti: Growing up in crowded households means spending more time on the streets.

Youth advocates say that as children and youth are often caught at the centre of the urban chaos, they can also be involved in generating solutions.

"Improving life in the cities just can't happen without youth being engaged," says Doug Ragan, Senior Manager of the Environmental Youth Alliance in Vancouver, a non-profit group that involves youth in areas

SLUM CITIES

Avril Benoît is a CBC Radio host and documentary producer based in Toronto. A native of Ottawa, Ontario, and Mont-Tremblant, Quebec, Benoît first joined the CBC in 1986. She has filed stories from Haiti, Germany, Kenya, Burundi, Brazil and India. Last year she was the Knowlton Nash Fellow at the University of Toronto, where her research focused on human rights, governance and development. This led to a series of radio reports from slums around the world, and the feature television documentary *Slum Cities: A Shifting World* on CBC Newsworld.

Perhaps it's a quirk of having worked in radio for so long, but I tend to recall places I've travelled to more by their sound than how they looked or smelled. Walking on the squishy "flying toilets" (feces-filled plastic bags) in Kibera slum in Nairobi would be plenty distracting to most people, but for me the dominant memory is the chorus of preschoolers squealing "How are you? How are you?" to the lone *muzungu* (white person) walking through their community of almost one million people.

In Rocinha, the biggest *favela* or shantytown in Rio de Janeiro, the crackle of gunfire between a narcotics gang and police sounded like a samba squad free-styling on tin pots. The drug dealers stayed hidden on high ground, maybe on the upper floors of one of the seven-story buildings that defy our notion of what a slum is supposed to look like. The gunfight was followed by the tender sounds of a ballad played over loudspeakers in the market, as dozens of us stood breathless, listening for the 'all-clear.' All the while, a nearby construction worker hammered away—as if it was pointless to be bothered by the daily violence.

And in Mumbai, home to six million slum dwellers from all over India, it was the sheer cacophony. The

non-stop racket! It's a wonder anyone can sleep at night. For me, that din came to symbolize what it means to struggle, day in and day out, just to survive outside the fringes of the formal economy.

Perhaps the greatest hubbub I came across in a year of popping in and out of some of the world's worst slums was in the city-within-a-city called Dharavi. It's the biggest slum not only in Mumbai, but in all of Asia, with more than 800,000 people living on roughly two square kilometres.

On a sunset stroll, with the Muslim call to prayer bellowing from rooftop loudspeakers that distort more than amplify, I met some men running a back-alley movie theatre, with tinny audio that sounded like it was recorded with the microphone of a mini-camera, giving it that Bollywood bootleg authenticity. A short distance away, a Sufi saint decked out in billowing green satin, Aladdin-style, black makeup smudged around his bugged-out eyes, bestowed blessings in a low voice, gently conking me on the head with his staff. He accepts cash donations. A barber sitting cross-legged on a plank of wood by the roadside chatted incessantly as he shaved, with a straight razor, the face of the customer sitting in front of him.



There are many ways to make a rupee or two. And India's poor seem to have figured them all out.

The next morning on the outskirts of the slum, I noticed a gas station that seemed to be working in reverse, one taxi after another pulling in for the teenage attendant to empty their tanks rather than fill them up. The cab drivers, one presumes, sell the fuel without the assent of the owners, simply returning to the dispatch centre with less gas than they left with.

It sounds like mayhem, I know. And there's more on the way. By 2020, fully 40 percent of the world's population of 9 billion people will live in overcrowded urban slums without adequate sanitation, public services or, most importantly, title deeds to the wee parcels of land they've built their shacks on.

But buried just beneath the surface is the irony that these slum dwellers are among the most entrepreneurial people on earth. Amid all the filth and noise, you will rarely hear anything sounding remotely like defeat. ♣

Sounds of the slums: Avril Benoît interviews musicians in the Rio de Janeiro shantytown called Vigário Geral.

WOMEN OF THE WORLD

A new generation of women diplomats is delivering Canada's message abroad and putting a fresh face on the country's foreign policy.

Two years ago, Andrea Clements accepted her first foreign posting as Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner in Fukuoka, Japan.

Clements' background as an academic and management consultant, a stint as a teacher in Japan and three years serving in Canada's diplomatic service made her a natural choice to run one of the country's six offices in Japan. But she left for her assignment mindful that as a married woman with a newborn baby, she would have been barred from taking on the job just a generation ago.

Clements is one of a new crop of women diplomats—multilingual, highly educated and juggling relationships and families—who are putting a fresh face on what was once largely a man's world. Representing Canada abroad, they underscore the country's determination to be a global leader in areas such as promoting progress for women, protecting human rights in war-torn

regions and fighting against HIV/AIDS.

In 1995, Canada, along with the international community, committed

itself to the Beijing Platform for Action, which identifies key concerns such as the dangers for women in conflict and opportunities for women in political decision making. At the United Nations, Canada has co-led a campaign to improve the participation of women in high-level decision-making positions. And through membership in multilateral bodies such as the Commonwealth, the Organization of American States and La Francophonie, Canada is pressing for recognition of the rights of women, especially those who, as a result of armed conflict, have no voice, property rights or security.

"Over the last 30 years, the Government of Canada has not only demonstrated its awareness of gender parity but has played a leading role in integrating a gender-based perspective and the advancement of the rights of women internationally," observes Marie-Lucie Morin, who was recently named Canada's second female Deputy Minister of International Trade. A mother of four, Morin, 48, has had foreign postings in Norway, Moscow, London, Jakarta and San Francisco and is one of eight women among the 26 deputy ministers in the federal government. "Canada is seen as a world leader in promoting women's rights and gender equality."

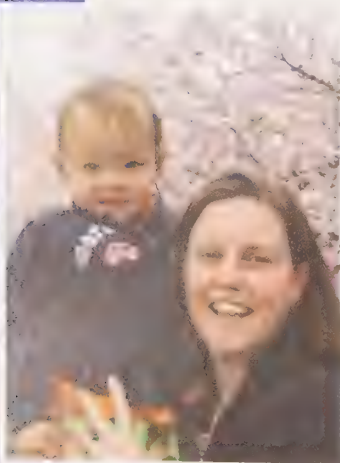
Canadian engagement in Afghanistan, for example, involves women and girls as participants in the rebuilding of their country in areas including governance and economic development. And in Sudan, Canada provides direct aid to help Darfuri women who are victims of rape and marginalized by limited access to education, property and power.

"It is only by making women a part of Afghanistan's recovery that change and progress will be sustainable," says Chantale Walker, senior advisor on gender equality at DFAIT. "We have been active in addressing gender equality as a crucial component of the Darfur peace talks." The benefits, Walker adds, accrue to all. "Gender equality is not only about women; it is about equality between men and women, boys and girls."

Women currently account for some 40 percent of foreign service officers, up from just eight percent in 1981, while the proportion of those in senior management climbed to 27 percent from 8.7 percent over the same period. In January 2005, 27 of 132 heads of Canada's foreign missions were women, an increase from just 15 in 2000.

"In the foreign service, as in many other fields of endeavour, women are making slow but steady progress, while facing the same basic issue of how to combine a career with family life," remarks Margaret Weiers, author of a recent book on Canadian women diplomats called *Envoys Extraordinary: Women of the Canadian Foreign Service*.

In the early days, the diplomatic field was virtually closed to Canadian women. Those with talent got their start as departmental clerks—"lady typewriters" according to historian John Hilliker—and rose through the ranks on sheer ability. Agnes McCloskey, for example, was trilingual and joined what was then the Department of External Affairs in 1909 as a clerk, later working for legendary Under-Secretary of State O. D. Skelton in the 1930s. She went



Andrea Clements with her son Kai, who was two months old when Clements became Canada's Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner in Fukuoka, Japan, her first foreign posting.



First posting: Newly arrived in Bonn in the spring of 1954, Pamela McDougall stands outside the president's residence with a group of diplomats including Charles Ritchie (on her right), who had just presented his credentials as Canada's Ambassador to Germany.

on to serve as the department's chief accountant until 1943, when she was appointed vice-consul in New York, the first Canadian woman with diplomatic rank abroad.

In 1947, women were allowed to enter the foreign service, but for years after they were forced to resign if they married because they could not be posted abroad, Hilliker says. A directive in 1965 reminded "female members of the staff" that marriage made them "non-rotational for all practical purposes" and consequently broke "an essential condition of their employment." The ban on married women serving abroad was not lifted until 1970.

The career of retired diplomat Pamela McDougall echoes the gradual move of women from the sidelines to the mainstream of Canadian foreign policy. Trained as a chemist and able to speak English, French and German, McDougall first joined External Affairs in 1949 as a clerk. In 1952, she passed the foreign service exam and 18 months later was posted to Bonn, where she assisted Canada's efforts to rebuild post-war Germany. "It was a wild period."

In 1968, after assignments in the Far East and India, McDougall became Canada's envoy to Poland, a three-year posting that coincided with the birth of the Solidarity movement in Eastern Europe. She was

Canada's second woman ambassador, preceded only by Margaret Meagher, who headed Canada's mission to Israel in 1960.

In 1981, appointed as a one-person royal commission on Canada's foreign service, McDougall spared no criticism of the low morale and poor living conditions of diplomats working abroad and the spouses who accompanied them. Single throughout her diplomatic career, McDougall married at 61, five years after she left the foreign service. Now 81, she marvels at the current crop of female envoys who juggle overseas assignments with marriage and motherhood.

Clements, for example, arrived in Fukuoka when her son was only two months old. "One of the most challenging parts of this posting has been my family situation," she says. Expected to attend diplomatic functions one or two nights a week, she praises the flexibility of her husband, Toru Harada, a teacher who acted as a stay-at-home father (almost unheard of in Japan) until their son moved into daycare at 18 months of age.

The juggling act is even tougher for single mothers. Isabelle Roy, who was appointed last year as Canada's ambassador to Mali, a fast-growing mission in Africa, is a separated mother of two teenagers, who live with her. "When you are a couple,



Life's achievement: Pamela McDougall receives an award from Governor General Edward Schreyer upon her retirement in 1981.

there is a balance possible," says Roy, a former teacher in Gabon and consultant for the World Bank who joined the foreign service in 1993. "But alone it is not easy."

Roy recalls the blunt words of the female director general in Ottawa who supported her appointment. "She told me, 'This is a test. If you fail, we fail—in the sense that we don't want to think these posts are reserved for men.'"

While happy with her job, the family adjustments over the past year have been "harder than I thought," Roy admits. In addition to her regular duties—travel within and outside Mali and attendance at special diplomatic events—she has to cope with the children missing their father back home. She puts in long days, but maintains a flexible schedule to meet the children for lunch some days and plans well ahead for their regular visits back to Canada. At times, Roy must rely on trusted friends to help out when she is called to meetings out of the country that conflict with the kids' school timetable and activities.

The balancing act is not just for women with families. Nadia Scipio del Campo, 30, joined the foreign



Canadian diplomat Kimberly Phillips in Kyiv, Ukraine, where she was a member of the Canadian team observing the repeat Ukrainian presidential election of December 2004.

service in 2002 to put her degrees in environmental science and geology to work internationally. The head of public affairs in the Canadian High Commission in India finds herself in a commuting relationship with her boyfriend in Berlin.

"A career in the foreign service means uprooting yourself on a regular basis," she says. "The challenge is to find a partner or spouse who likes that lifestyle and has a career that is mobile."

Meanwhile, Canada's diversity affords a deep pool of talented women

who have much to offer the foreign service. In 1993, DFAIT hired former journalist and public servant Kimberly Phillips, a Métis of Ojibway descent. "Despite a keen interest in travelling and working overseas, I had never considered a career in the foreign service," says Phillips, 37, who serves as a public affairs counsellor at the Canadian embassy in Stockholm. "Had I not been approached, I never would have applied."

Since signing on, she has travelled to more than 60 countries, lived in four countries, studied two foreign languages, served as an election monitor in Timor Leste and Ukraine and attended several G8 summits. She also reaches out to members of Canada's aboriginal community, especially women, to suggest that they consider a diplomatic career, but says "more needs to be done to make our diplomatic service even more reflective of Canada's diversity."

Like their male counterparts, women diplomats use special events to take Canada's message to the world. Earlier this year, on the occasion of International Women's Day, Consul Andrea Clements hosted a networking lunch for local businesswomen in

Fukuoka and asked each invitee to bring a female guest. Such an all-women event is rare in Japan, notes Clements, who used the occasion to talk about the support that exists for women in the workplace in Canada.

"This has not only given us the opportunity to highlight Canada's leadership in this area...and promote Canadian values," she observes, "It also made for excellent business relationships and contacts for the consulate and Canadian businesses."

Ultimately, breakthroughs for women diplomats enrich Canada's reputation in the world, says freshman diplomat Dilani Hippola. The daughter of Sri Lankans who came to Canada almost 40 years ago, Hippola, 26, was shaped by her family and by the respect for diversity and human rights she witnessed while growing up in Canada.

This fall, she heads off to a posting in India eager to communicate Canadian values abroad and interpret the fast-growing region for those back home. The path beaten by previous Canadian women envoys makes her job easier, Hippola says. "If you are trying to sell an idea, the best way is to be an example of it yourself." ♣

Leading by example

Diplomats seek out every avenue to showcase Canadian values and promote Canada's place in the world. But sometimes an opportunity presents itself. That's what happened with Pamela Isfeld, 40, a foreign service officer serving as political advisor to Canadian Brigadier-General David Fraser, the commander of the multinational military coalition in Southern Afghanistan based in Kandahar.

Isfeld recalls being mobbed by little girls "fascinated by the idea that I got to travel around with all those soldiers," while on a visit earlier this year with the commander to a nearby province. "I'd like to think that some of them might remember meeting me and think, 'hey, she did that, I should be able to.'"

A political scientist with a specialty in Soviet studies, Isfeld joined the foreign service in 1993. Last fall after taking part in a tactical reconnaissance mission to Kandahar, she volunteered for the one-year assignment there.

She believes that women sometimes have an advantage in such difficult settings because they are not seen as a threat. "Feminine qualities can be quite valuable in diplomacy, even in a traditional society like Afghanistan," she says. "I have certainly been able to gain access, pass messages, and ask impolitic questions that my male colleagues would not have gotten away with."

But no matter who is in the job, she adds, "flexibility and adaptability are huge assets in this kind of work."



Canadian diplomat Pamela Isfeld travels by helicopter to Qalat, the capital of Zabul province, north of Kandahar.

GLOBALIZATION IS JUST BEGINNING

Donald Johnston is retiring after 10 years as Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, following a career in Canada as an academic, lawyer, author and politician. From 1978 to 1988, he was a member of Parliament, serving as a cabinet minister in a number of senior portfolios including President of the Treasury Board, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. Johnston became Secretary-General of the OECD in 1996, the only Canadian and first non-European elected to the post. Over his two terms, he played a major role in globalizing the organization, which now works with more than 70 non-OECD economies throughout the world in areas such as agriculture; trade; macro-economic, labour and social issues; corporate governance; and the effectiveness of development assistance programs. He left the OECD in May and is succeeded by Angel Gurría, the former foreign minister and finance minister of Mexico.

The Dark Ages, the Renaissance, the Industrial Revolution: these may be phrases from previous centuries, but they carry a multitude of images, lessons and historical memories that are still relevant today. I believe that the end of the last century and the beginning of this one will be characterized as the dawn of the "Age of Globalization."

Not that globalization is a new phenomenon. International trade and investment, to take just two examples from the many areas affected by globalization, have a long history. And markets have been international for centuries. According to economic historian Angus Maddison, some 3,500 Dutch merchant ships plied the seven seas in about 1670. The Dutch fleet dwarfed all others at the time. The leading capitalist country of the 19th century, Britain, which embarked on market integration, albeit largely within a colonial context, developed a policy of eliminating tariffs and imposed the policy on others. At the same time, it opened its economy to agricultural imports and watched its own agricultural sector wither away.

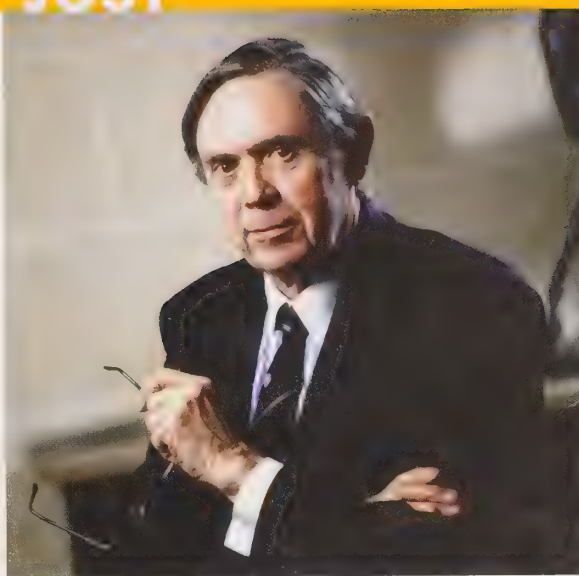


photo: OECD/OCDI

OECD Secretary-General Donald Johnston: "The end of the last century and the beginning of this one will be characterized as the dawn of the 'Age of Globalization.'"

The mobility of capital in the latter part of the 19th century and the early part of the 20th century was enormous. The gross nominal value of capital invested abroad in 1914 by the U.K., France and Germany was greater than in 1938. Capital mobility was quite extraordinary at the end of the so-called liberal era before the First World War. In 1914, the stock of foreign capital invested by western European countries in developing countries was 32 per cent of their GDP. Although we have, in recent years, drawn close to this level of investment in developing countries, we have never exceeded it.

So why are we so preoccupied and concerned with the notion of free trade and globalization today, if they are merely an extension of what we have already experienced? The difference is that the extent of global integration between national markets is much greater than in the past—although, in many respects, less than popular opinion would have us believe. Moreover, it is the fast pace of change that has put



image: NMM London

International markets: A painting of Dutch merchant ships under sail by Willem van de Velde, the Elder, 1649. Some 3,500 Dutch merchant ships plied the seven seas in the era.

enormous pressure on societies to adapt and to create new skills.

Just how integrated is today's global economy? One indicator is trade, now a major engine of growth in developed and developing countries alike. The volume of world merchandise traded today is about 22 times what it was in 1950. During the same period, the value of the world's output has increased seven times over.

Perhaps the deepest integration of all has been the cross-border link-ups of enterprises. The share of OECD countries' capital formation founded on foreign direct investment rose to more than 10 percent in recent years, having stood at around 4 percent for decades.

An increasing proportion of this is in developing countries, including "South-South" investment, but OECD economies still account for the lion's share. Furthermore, the activities of foreign affiliates of multinational enterprises are perhaps the most important drivers of global integration. The share of foreign affiliates in manufacturing turnover has risen in nearly all OECD countries over the past decade.

Efforts to attract foreign capital, especially in the form of foreign direct investment, are critical to growth everywhere. As with trade, foreign direct investment is a win-win deal for host and home countries alike. According to OECD data, for each extra dollar of outward foreign direct investment, there are two dollars of additional exports which, in turn, translate into additional jobs in the home country.

So have we finished integrating? Globalizing? Have we reaped all the benefits? Certainly not yet. It is the high-income countries that have predominantly participated in expanding trade and investment. And their firms will continue to think and act globally—they will not go into

reverse. The non-OECD world can become much more integrated into the global economy too. The non-OECD Asian countries have joined world markets more successfully than Latin American countries and much more so than most African countries. And capital markets are still far from being fully integrated.

While developing countries can participate more, so can advanced economies. A recent (and widely quoted) OECD study argues that if barriers to trade, foreign direct investment and domestic competition were reduced on both sides of the Atlantic, the cumulative effect on earnings would mean workers in the OECD area could make an additional full year's wage or more across their lifetimes.

This should be seen as good news. But at the OECD, which has a key role in bringing about a globalization from which all benefit, we know it is not sufficient to point to such incontrovertible evidence that liberalization and market integration work. It is also necessary to address the worries of citizens—and even countries—who see themselves as losers, with their noses pressed against the window looking in at the winners.

Global integration has much farther to go, not least in ensuring that its benefits accrue to all countries. It has much more to achieve in terms of economic growth and concomitant social welfare. This is the age of globalization, but it is just the beginning. ♣

Learn more about the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development at www.oecd.org.

The futuristic skyline of Shanghai, China: The non-OECD Asian countries have successfully joined the world markets.



NO BORDERS HERE

Canadian artists from the Arab world find inspiration in 1,001 sources.

For Nadine Ltaif, a poet of Lebanese origin who has lived in Quebec for more than 25 years, "there are no limits to inspiration." In a recent lecture at a cultural symposium in New Delhi, Ltaif noted that some critics believe that *The Thousand and One Nights*, the classic collection of Arabic tales, originated in India. Small wonder, then, that for Ltaif and many artists of Arabic origin who have made Canada home, anything goes.

Canada's Middle Eastern community is a mix of Arab and other ethnic groups, Jewish, Muslim and Christian religions, English and French languages, and cultures spanning North Africa, the Gulf states and the Levant. The resulting broad spectrum of approaches and concerns has given birth to a vibrant arts community that draws on its origins, its new homeland—and all points in between.

Two musical artists who appeared at last year's Festival du Monde Arabe in Montreal illustrate the fluid play between cultures. Born in Libya, Sam Shalabi plays instruments as varied as guitar and *oud* (lute) in a dozen or so Montreal bands, producing psychedelic pop that is flavoured with Middle Eastern sounds. Quebec singer Lynda Thalie performs music that fuses what she calls the "honey" of her native Algeria with the "maple syrup" of Canada.

The first exhibition of Arab-Canadian visual artists, called *The Lands Within Me*, at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, showcased the work of Canadian artists originating

from across the Arab world in a variety of media including calligraphy, contemporary painting and jewellery.

Many artists from the region work in more than one discipline, expanding artistic—as well as cultural—frontiers. Born in Egypt to Armenian parents, Atom Egoyan has become one of Canada's most celebrated filmmakers. In addition to writing his own scripts, he has adapted several novels to the screen, including *Where the Truth Lies*. This fall, he will direct Wagner's *Die Walküre* at the Canadian Opera Company.

Egoyan co-produced *Sabah*, the first feature film of Ruba Nadda, who was born in Montreal but spent her childhood moving between Syria and Canada. Nadda published short fiction in literary journals and produced more than two dozen short films before *Sabah*—the story of a 40-year-old Muslim woman who falls in love with a non-Muslim, non-Arab man.

Veils Uncovered, a recent short documentary by Canadian filmmaker Nora Kevorkian, examines the lives of



women in Damascus, Syria. Like Arsinée Khanjian—Atom Egoyan's wife, creative partner and the star of *Sabah*—Kevorkian is of Armenian and Lebanese heritage.

While the Arabic influence is strong in English-Canadian culture, it is especially pronounced in Quebec. In *Voices in the Desert*, an anthology of Arab-Canadian women writers, editor Elizabeth Dahab points out that most Arab-Canadian writers work in French. Her anthology features poetry and prose that often address questions of identity, cultural exile and gender inequality.

One of the writers, Abla Farhoud, settled in Quebec during the 1950s.

Canadian director Ruba Nadda, who was born in Montreal but spent her childhood moving between Syria and Canada, published short fiction in literary journals and produced more than two dozen short films before working on the film *Sabah*.

Mexico honours Quebec sculptor

René Derouin, an engraver and sculptor from Quebec, has been awarded Mexico's Order of the Aztec Eagle, a first for a Canadian artist. Derouin describes himself as a "latino del norte," and has held several exhibitions of his work in Mexico, including at the renowned Rufino Tamayo Museum of Contemporary Art. He said that the award "strengthens the special relationship that I have had with Mexico, its people and culture throughout my career." The Order of the Aztec Eagle is the highest award that the Mexican government gives to foreign artists in recognition of their contribution to the country.



Québécois engraver and sculptor René Derouin has received Mexico's Order of the Aztec Eagle.



Canadian director Atom Egoyan and his wife Arsinée Khanjian attend the Toronto International Film Festival.

By 17, she was performing in Radio-Canada television productions, and later studied theatre in France and Quebec. Her much-performed play, *Les filles du 5-10-15*, explores the generational conflicts between two young girls and their parents, who run a five-and-dime store.

Michelle Hartman, who teaches Arabic literature at McGill University's Institute of Islamic Studies, says that the arts frequently feature the theme of people having "a different relationship with a homeland" that they are exiled or separated from. "We tend to read novels or other cultural work

through the lens of identity," she explains, "But a lot of authors are more interested in being read for their artistic value."

May Telmissany is a case in point. The Egyptian-born novelist named her first novel, *Doniazade*, after a character in *The Thousand and One Nights*. "I started it three days after losing my child," she says, finishing the book in three months but later reworking it to add fictional elements. For Telmissany, it's the universal story of a woman coping with the loss of a stillborn child rather than a novel about "an Egyptian woman living in Cairo."

Cultural context is impossible to ignore. Wajdi Mouawad, a Québécois actor, playwright, novelist, stage director and film director, fled the civil war in Lebanon at 16 and settled in Montreal with his parents. Mouawad has written some dozen plays as well as adapting classics by Cervantes, Shakespeare and Chekhov to great acclaim, but is best known for *Littoral*, a comic-tragic tale of a young Montrealer of Lebanese descent who takes his dead father back to the old country for burial.

Lebanon's civil war also forced Nadine Ltaif to abandon home and

friends. "I look back on that time as a wound—a scar," she says. The trauma informed her first book of poems, *Les Métamorphoses d'Ishtar*, which examined social oppression and women's empowerment. For the past decade, Ltaif has worked with Hejer Charf, a filmmaker originally from Tunisia, on projects such as Charf's film *Les Passeurs*, which offers hope for reconciling the needs of different cultures and races. The fact that she is a Christian and Charf is a Muslim, says Ltaif, "makes it doubly significant to work on a film about reconciliation."

Ltaif appeared in a National Film Board documentary in 1992 directed by Michka Saäl, a Jewish woman originally from Tunisia. *A Sleeping Tree Dreams of its Roots* uses super-8 home movies, old photos, dramatizations and casual conversations to explore the varied ancestries of Ltaif and Saäl. "I no longer 'dream of my roots,'" says Ltaif today. "Sitting in a café in Montreal or seeing a squirrel in a tree can inspire me to write." ♣

Learn about Canada's International Cultural Relations Program at www.international.gc.ca/arts.

IN BRIEF

Passport Canada passes three-million mark

Passport Canada's volume has reached levels never seen before, with more than three million passports issued last year. "More Canadians than ever before recognize that the passport is the best travel document," said Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay.

Passport Canada, a special operating agency of DFAIT, has seen a steady increase in volume over the

past five years. In 2001-2002, some 1.7 million passports were issued and about 27 percent of the population held a valid passport. By 2005-2006, more than three million passports were issued and close to 40 percent of the population had passports. Passport Canada forecasts that by 2008-2009, some 3.8 million passports will be issued and almost half of all Canadians will hold passports.

To meet the demand, Passport Canada has 33 offices across the country, as well as more than 90 Canada Post and Service Canada

receiving agents who help ensure applications are correctly completed. It also offers extended hours during the week and Saturday service in busier offices during the peak winter season.

To avoid congestion and shorten waiting times, Passport Canada recommends that Canadians apply for passports in the spring, summer or fall. They can send their applications by mail, use Service Canada or Canada Post services or fill out their application using "Passport on-line" at www.passportcanada.gc.ca.



FACING THE THREAT OF AN INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

When the last major influenza pandemic struck in 1918, the massive movement of troops across the Atlantic at the end of the First World War helped transmit the deadly Spanish flu far and wide.

Today, with tens of thousands of people jetting around the world each day, it's likely that a new influenza pandemic would spread with even greater ease.

While the H5N1 avian flu virus remains largely a danger to birds, with only a few hundred human cases caused by direct exposure to infected birds, the possibility of a human influenza pandemic exists if the avian flu virus mutates or combines to form a new human strain. Staff of DFAIT, both at home and in missions abroad, have been preparing to handle diplomatic, consular and trade issues that might arise in a pandemic, and to ensure that accurate information about the disease is relayed and essential services are provided.

"With its international focus, this department is taking contingency plans for a possible outbreak of pandemic influenza very seriously," says Ruth Archibald, the senior coordinator for pandemic preparedness at DFAIT. Foreign missions have detailed plans for all potential pandemic phases that could be declared by the World Health Organization (WHO), Archibald says,

and the department has recently developed a plan for its headquarters staff.

Romania's announcement in March of a quarantine related to an outbreak of the H5N1 flu virus in Cernavoda, a town of 20,000 people southeast of Bucharest, might not have drawn much attention, except that some 250 Canadian workers and their families were living there temporarily while working for Atomic Energy of Canada Limited. Staff of Canada's embassy in Bucharest kept abreast of the Canadian workers' situation until the quarantine was lifted.

Howard Njoo, Associate Director General of the Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response at the Public Health Agency of Canada, says it's expected that between 15 and 35 percent of the population would become infected during the course of a human influenza pandemic—some seriously, others less so.

One of the first international effects of a pandemic would likely be travel restrictions. Njoo says that, as a control measure, seriously affected countries would start screening people leaving their borders to see whether they had any symptoms of the flu. "What you are really trying to do is slow down the spread of the virus so that you gain time



to develop a vaccine," he says.

In a document entitled *Responding to the Avian Influenza Pandemic Threat: Recommended Strategic Actions*, the WHO notes that "countries with pandemic response plans, ideally rehearsed in advance, will be in the best position to make decisions and take actions rapidly."

Managers at DFAIT have conducted "tabletop" planning exercises with missions in Beijing and London to develop and test response strategies in the event of a pandemic, and have identified the critical services that will continue to be offered.

"Essential staff will be available, but you are not going to have the same level of service," says Archibald, whose great-uncle died of the Spanish flu, having returned to Canada after fighting in the First World War.

Scott Corcoran, Deputy Director of emergency planning in the Consular Affairs Bureau at DFAIT, says Canada's foreign embassies and consulates do not provide medical services to Canadian travellers, although they can provide information on where to seek help.

Some 2.5 million Canadians live, work or are travelling abroad at any given time.

For further information on pandemic influenza preparation visit www.influenza.ca. Information for travellers is at www.fac-aec.gc.ca/avianflu-en.asp.

A researcher analyzes the carcass of a dead duck in Brescia, Italy, for signs of the avian flu virus as part of control measures introduced in Italy.

Canada hosts international AIDS conference

The XVI International AIDS Conference will be held in Toronto from August 13 to 18. The theme of the high-profile event is "Time to Deliver," focusing on the promises and progress made in the global fight against HIV/AIDS. This is expected to be the largest of the biennial conferences to date, with more than 20,000 delegates from the scientific community, civil society organizations and academic institutions, as well as political leaders, government officials

and international dignitaries. The Government of Canada is a strong supporter of the conference, contributing over \$4 million to the event and organizing several conference sessions including a leadership forum. Canada has invested more than \$800 million over the past five years to deal with HIV/AIDS around the world and is committed to an evidence-based approach to combatting the disease that promotes human rights, gender equality and partnerships with civil society. More information on the conference is at www.AIDS2006.org.

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Exposing Urban Solutions

A photo contest sponsored by Canada's International Development Research Centre has shed light on the creative ways in which people are making their cities better places to live. Professional and amateur photographers were asked to submit digital photos representative of how people are tackling the challenges of urban living. The images were grouped in four theme areas; from each category, *Canada World View* selected one photo showing how people are coping with big-city living.

Find out more about the International Development Research Centre at www.idrc.ca.



Cities Feeding People
(growing food in urban areas)

My Vegetable Plants by McLloyd Jumpay, Mandaluyong City, Philippines.
A tenant waters eggplants early in the morning in Manila, the Philippines. Due to a shortage of land and the high cost of food, Filipinos plant vegetables in discarded plastic containers.



Liquid Gold
(the productive uses of water)

Reflections of Adaptation and Conservation by Meaghen Simms, Ottawa, Canada.
Once used for brewing yak-butter tea, a traditional kettle collects water in the courtyard of the Jokhang Temple in central Lhasa, Tibet.



Waste Not, Want Not
(recycling)

Garbagemen by Arie Basuki, Bogor, Indonesia.
People pick through a dump in Jakarta, Indonesia, for material useful for industrial purposes.



Avoiding Disaster
(risk-proofing the urban environment)

Local Riverbank Erosion Protection by Iftekhar Ahmed, Pathumthani, Thailand.
Riverbank erosion is a serious and regular hazard in Sunamganj, Bangladesh. Concrete retention walls are a low-cost but washing away.

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